SPECTATOR

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Preston Sutton '98 and Nat Faxon '97 hit the stage during the Bobby Peru comedy show in the Hub last night.

Community remembers student victims of Thruway car accident

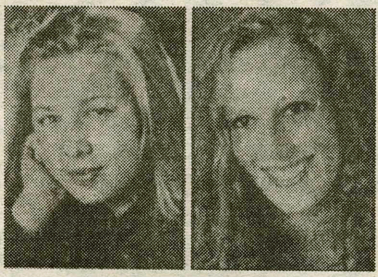
By David H. Townsend '97
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A vigil service for two students killed in a car accident was held last Friday afternoon in the Chapel where almost 200 community members gathered to remember their friends and grieve for their loss. "It was a way for everyone to sort out the realization that this did happen," College Chaplain Jeff McArn said.

Students and faculty members spoke at the somber vigil service, and a friend of Kirsten's played a song from her favorite CD. As President Eugene M. Tobin said, "The community is heartbroken."

Kirsten Willin '00 and Kristin Wilson '99 died in the early morning hours of December 6th when the car carrying them back from a concert in Syracuse swerved out of control on the New York State Thruway.

Amy Amato '99, also a passenger in the car, was taken to St. Elizabeth Hospital and later released. She plans to remain at home for the immediate future.



PHOTOS COURTESY HAMILTON COLLEGE

Wilson and and Willin.

The driver of the car, Robin Atkin was taken to St. Lukes-Memorial Hospital where she was in satisfactory condition on Friday and has since been released. Atkin, a friend of Amato's from home, did not attend Hamilton.

The families of the victims plan to travel to Hamilton to attend a memorial service this Saturday at noon in the Chapel. "These ceremonies can provide a sense of closure, and a way to acknowledge the loss," said Bob Kazin, Director of Counseling Services. "It gives students a chance to express what they feel."

On Tuesday of this past week funeral services were held for Wilson in her hometown of Hinsdale, New Hampshire. Willin's funeral took place in Salisbury, Maryland on Wednesday. About twenty students from Hamilton traveled in a college van to attend the services in Maryland. Nancy Thompson, Acting Dean of Students, took students to New Hampshire for Wilson's funeral.

There will be a reception following the memorial service on Saturday. This may be a good time for those students who wish to meet the families of the women to do so.

These deaths marked the third and fourth deaths to shake the Hamilton community this semester. Quija Fu, a 1996 graduate died at the beginning of the semester after being struck by lightning while hiking in Utah. Ben Claassen, a first-year, perished

Please see ***Accident****, page 2*

Steuben Field to host Commencement '97

Special To
The Spectator

President Tobin announced Wednesday that the College's 185th Commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 25, 1997, will take place outdoors for the first time in eight years.

The Margaret Bundy Scott Field House has served as the site for the annual celebration since 1989. It will again be made ready in the event of inclement weather, but the primary site for this ceremony will be Steuben Field.

"There has been constant pressure from the community over the years to hold the ceremony outdoors," said Tobin. The Student Assembly formed an Outdoor Graduation Committee to work with and persuade the administration to schedule the event outdoors.

Courtney Stuedemann '97, this year's chair of that committee, said, "We have been working closely with the President and his Assistant, and they expressed a desire to help us out."

Past attempts by students to persuade the administration have failed. Last year a compromise was reached between the committee to hold the baccalaureate ceremony outside, while keeping graduation inside.

When asked why the decision was made this year, Tobin responded, "Everything has its moment, and we could find no compelling reason why commencement shouldn't be held outside."

"This ceremony is an academic celebration for students, and students have been persuasive in expressing their overwhelming preference for the outdoor site," said Tobin. "We believe we can maintain the dignity of the ceremony and provide the necessary arrangements for our guests who need special assistance, just as we have done in the past."

Please see ***Commencement****, page 5*

Greenspan, Oh victorious in SA election

By Peter N. Gaston '99
NEWS EDITOR

The student body selected Susan Greenspan '99 and Yungjin Oh '98 as the new president and vice president of Student Assembly through campus-wide elections Tuesday.

Greenspan and Oh finished with 55% of the vote while their opponents, Tom McGovern '00 and Tim Palmer '00, gathered 7% of the vote. Audra Griss '99 and Steve Watt '98, running as write-in candidates, accumulated 38% of the vote. Voter turnout was about 35%, according to one source.

"I'm very happy and excited to get started," said Greenspan, who is currently president of the Class of '99.

"I'm happy with the turnout we received, and I thank all of our supporters who voted," McGovern said. "Not many swing votes went our way." McGovern also cited that support for his campaign was not substantial since he and Palmer are both first-years.

The big surprise of the election was the impressive showing by Griss and Watt, whose campaign did not begin until after Thanksgiving break. Since the two candidates decided to run for office after the deadline for entry into the election, they were not officially recognized as candidates by SA.

"[Our success in the election] is definitely something to be proud of," Griss stated. "Had we been on the official ballot, I think we would have won."

Please see ***Election****, page 5*

Trustees spend productive weekend on College Hill

By Ilko Menkov '00
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Board of Trustees gathered during the last weekend (December 6-8) for its second meeting of the 1996-97 academic year. The Board met with several different committees that supervise College business and discussed with them their current affairs, as well as their recommendations for improving Hamilton.

Annually, there are four meetings of the Board of Trustees. The meeting during the last weekend was the second one for this academic year. There are two more meetings of the Board of Trustees–in the end of February and in June, during Reunion Weekend.

The second Trustees Weekend this year began on Friday morning with meetings of the Board with the permanent committees that look after College business. There are approximately ten permanent committees which include trustees, faculty and students. The committees reported to the Trustees and recommended some changes, discussed at the meeting of the Board on Saturday morning.

As President Tobin revealed in a memorandum, distributed to the Hamilton community, the Board of Trustees approved on its Saturday meeting three recommendations of the Buildings, Grounds and Equipment Committee. The first one was to "renovate and build an addition to the former Delta Upsilon fraternity house in an amount not to exceed $4 million." The second approved proposal was "to spend up to $500,000 to improve the bathrooms, lighting and living conditions in Dunham." The last accepted proposition was to "authorize up to $150,000 for design development and construction drawings for the renovation of Soper Commons Dining Hall."

The Committee on Student Affairs and the Campaign Committee heard a status report on the activities of the Office of Communications and Development including "update on the 1996-97 Annual Fund, Planned Giving and the ongoing solicitation for the campaign's nucleus fund."

The Committee on Student Affairs met with Student Assembly

Please see ***Trustees****, page 5*

I N S I D E • T H I S • I S S U E

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Jill Allen and Hamilton's handicap access

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College copes with another tragedy

From Accident, page 1

with his father in a plane crash returning to campus after October Break. The cause of the crash has yet to be determined. "The compounding of the tragedies is almost beyond the ability of the community to understand," said President Tobin.

The three vehicle accident which killed the two women on Friday morning occurred at about 12:25 a.m., hours after wet snow began to fall in the region. According to police reports in the *Observer Dispatch*, slippery road conditions may have led to the accident.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR WILLIN & WILSON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 12 NOON THE CHAPEL

Police reports in *The Utica Observer-Dispatch* reported that Atkin's black 1994 Nissan swerved on the slippery stretch of highway between exits 33 and 32. After quickly turning to the left, the car began to spin around several times. The car was then struck on the passenger's side by a Chevrolet van attempting to avoid the spinning vehicle.

After the van came to a stop in the center of the highway, a tractor trailer heading eastbound collided with the driver's side of Atkin's car. The collision threw the car upside down on the median.

The counseling center would like all members of the community to know that their services are available.

Organizations sponsor campus speak-out

By Kristen Holderle '00 and Kathy Webber '00
NEWS STAFF WRITERS

In response to recent incidents on campus, the Sexual Harassment Grievance Board, and the Campus Relations board held a speak out on Monday night entitled "Sexual Harassment-Hamilton's Cultural Silence, Myth, or Reality?" The speak out began with an introduction by Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Comparative Literature Nancy Rabinowitz, who was followed by President Eugene M. Tobin and Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, who addressed the issues of all forms of harassment on campus.

According to Tobin, "everyone should feel outraged" when acts of harassment occur, and as a result, he feels that it is necessary to have programs like this where people are able to voice their opinions. Gene Tobin asked a few questions of the audience that night. Most importantly, he wanted to know if the students of Hamilton were going to tolerate this type of intolerance, or if we were going to speak up and do something about it. He closed by saying, "The challenge is not to inform, but to encourage people to come forward."

Following Tobin, Thompson spoke about the roles of the different boards on campus, and what people can do in order to prevent future incidents of assault and harassment on campus. According to her, the largest problem associated with these incidents is drinking. She noted that the majority of the cases that are brought to the boards came about because the parties were intoxicated. Thompson told people not to be hesitant about bringing charges to the different boards, because she said that "we will take action."

It has been discovered that many times the boards are not utilized because people do not fully understand the policies. Sharon Gormley of the Campus Relations Board said that in order to solve this problem, the Board has decided to rewrite its manual to make the procedures clearer and help students and faculty to better understand what the boards can do for them.

PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99
President Tobin addresses the Speak-Out.

After these speakers, students were invited to share their stories about incidents of harassment which they had either witnessed or been victims of. Some people read letters that students had written about their experiences, while others told their stories to the group of students and faculty that had gathered in the Events Barn. The topics discussed ranged from discrimination of religion, culture and sexuality, to topics of domestic violence and rape.

Stacey Corbin, the victim of harassment who wrote a letter to *The Spectator*, was also present to speak to the audience. Besides addressing her situation, Corbin also read aloud a letter that she had received anonymously. This letter detailed an incident of rape that occurred to a first year student, and more frighteningly, alluded to the fact that many first year women had also been victims of rape.

This presentation concluded that the "cultural silence" at Hamilton is a reality, and that something has to be done in order to encourage people to come forward with their stories. According to Nancy Thompson, the best way to deal with these situations is to prevent them. In order to do this, the students must be informed of the situations that exist on campus.

HAMILTON COLLEGE

NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled By Spectator Staff

Early Decision acceptances mailed

Eighty high school students already know they're coming to Hamilton in the Fall of 1997. The College recently mailed out responses to early decision candidates for the class of 2001. This year, 80 students were accepted from the early applicant pool.

Admissions usually tries to accept 25-30% of the first year class from early decision applications.

"Admissions seem to be closely paralleling last year's figures," said Dean of Admissions, Rit Fuller. Last year's admissions set a recent record for the College by admitting the lowest percentage of applicants since the early 1980's. This years first-year class had the highest quality indicators since Hamilton merged with Kirkland College in 1978.

The incoming class will be smaller than past years as the College aims for 450 first-years as opposed to 480 in the recent past.

ISC elects Mintz as new president

The Inter Society Council (ISC) elected Ben Mintz '98 as prseident of that organization on Sunday. The ISC, composed of the eight fraternities and four sororities at Hamilton, serves to create policies and to provide a forum in which they can discuss issues and then work together to take action on those issues.

In the past the ISC has been more of a reactive body. "We hope to become a more proactive body in the future," said Mintz.

We hope to do away with our previously uneffective techniques. We will set definite goals and hope to achieve them, instead of having unrealistic and ambiguous goals. For example, instead of "Reverse Res Life," we will target specific portions of the decision and work to reverse them.

"Regardless of our reputation in the past, we look forward to making the ISC a powerful and respected force on this campus," said Mintz.

Mintz replaces outgoing president Christie Gammill '97.

Gaston chosen as Spec editor-in-chief for 1997

From Spectator Staff Reports

In a unanimous vote Monday night, the Media Board elected Peter Gaston '99 the new editor-in-chief of *The Spectator*. Gaston has served as arts and entertainment editor, managing editor, and, most recently, news editor for Hamilton's weekly newspaper. He will replace outgoing editor David Townsend '97.

"We've taken good steps towards making *The Spec* a much better publication in the past year under Dave, and I will continue to improve the paper in the coming year," said Gaston.

Gaston will hold the position of editor-in-chief for a full year, beginning with the first issue of the spring semester, and continuing until the end of next year's fall semester. In total, 26 issues will be produced under his guidance.

"There is a certain amount of pride in handing the paper over to someone as qualified and dedicated as Peter," said outgoing editor David Townsend. "I know that I'm leaving it in good hands."

According to Townsend, Gaston has been largely responsible for many of the recent changes to *The Spectator*. "He is a excellent writer and well schooled in layout and design," said Townsend. "That is a difficult combination to find."

In high school, Gaston served as editor of *The Lion's Tale*, his school's paper. He also wrote for an alternative entertainment guide in Washington, DC called *Scene* where he reviewed and previewed concerts and interviewed musicians such as Evan Dando, Shudder to Think, and Soul Coughing.

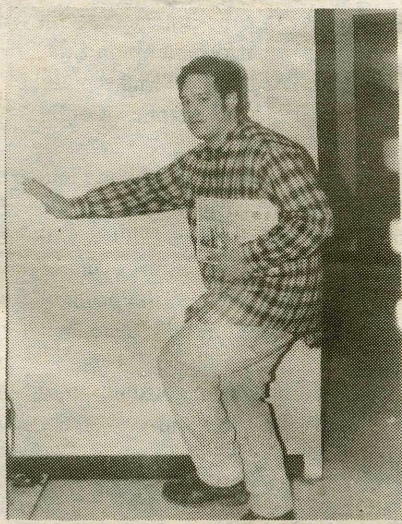

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99
Peter Gaston '99 will guide *The Spec* for 26 issues in 1997.

"I respect Peter as a colleague and as a good friend," said letters and op-ed editor Dan McAllister '99. "I am looking forward to working with him next semester."

The Board also elected Alyssa Gillmeister '98 in a unanimous vote to serve as Chair of the Media Board for the upcoming calendar year. Gillmeister, who has been studying in China this semester, hopes to widen the scope of media at Hamilton.

In another unanimous vote, the Media Board reelected David Gaines '99 as director of "Panorama: Life on the Hill." The television show was created by Gaines a year ago, and is shown on a public access station every Thursday. Gaines has made considerable strides in improving the show since its conception.

Meanwhile, the Executive Board of WHCL FM elected Whitney White '98 as its General Manager for 1997.

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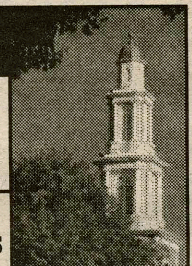
TONY'S PIZZA
853-4310
* PIZZA *
* WINGS *
* SUBS *
* CHICKEN CLUB SUBS *
"DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE"

32 CHENANGO AVE.
(NEAR GREAT AMERICAN)
TONY'S SPECIALTIES
853-1010
"FISH DINNERS" EVERYDAY!!
DIFFERENT ENTREES EVERYNIGHT!!
BURGERS, DOGS, FRIES, RIBS, SALADS
"DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE"

NEWS

IVORY TOWERS
THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND
COMPILED BY AARON ARMSTRONG '00



University of Cincinnati hosts Cochran book signing

On Wednesday, Cincinnati met the man who captained "The Dream Team." No, not the same dream team that represented America at this year's Olympics in Atlanta, but the one that was involved in the "Trial of the Century." Award-winning author and renowned lawyer Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. visited Joseph-Beth Booksellers Rookwood Pavilion location. Cochran's visit was the latest stop in a national tour to promote his new book, *Journeys to Justice*. The book details his life and career, and as one might expect, his take on the now infamous O.J. Simpson double murder trial.

By the time Cochran arrived at 5:25 p.m., the store was packed with people waiting to see him. Jovial and energetic, he sat down to meet the public and posed for a quick media photo shoot. The racially diverse crowd waited in line as Cochran smiled, shook hands and posed for pictures with some members of the crowd. Conversations could be heard all around discussing the Simpson case, trial evidence, race relations and Cochran himself.

One man eager to see Cochran was Bill Renken from Monfort Heights. A professional photographer, Renken was one of the few people in attendance who had personal experience involving the trial — he was the third person to testify in the double murder trial. Renken has met many of the trial's key players; notably including Christopher Darden and Kato Kaelin.

With the help of a friend in California, he was able to take photos of the actual crime scene. As he waited for his autograph ticket to be called, he showed *The News Record* his photograph journal which detailed the Simpson trial and his role in the case.

The most notable photo in the collection was one that showed Simpson at an event the night before the murders took place. He hoped to have Cochran sign his copy of the book and a photo that he took that was used in the trial.

He planned to take some pictures of the event to add to his journal.

Bradley commemorates World AIDS Day

Last Sunday people around the globe unified for World AIDS Day, echoing "One World, One Hope" to support the cause of AIDS prevention, education and research.

Bradley observed World AIDS Day Tuesday with an issue forum and Wednesday with an informational table in their Student Center. "We try to convey it's something that could happen to anybody," said Wellness Coordinator Elizabeth Richmond, who helped organize the activities. The Wellness Program and Peer Education sponsored the events.

The first World AIDS Day was Dec. 1, 1988, after a global summit of health ministers called for "a spirit of social tolerance and a greater exchange of information on HIV/AIDS."

Students found in their mailboxes red ribbons reminding them of World AIDS Day. Peer educators also handed out ribbons and information in the Student Center, with a large poster with many faces saying "One in five have AIDS, can you tell who has it?"

"Until you meet someone, when it hits close to home, then you realize what it does," Rick Beaman, a peer educator said. "If nothing else, if a student just takes (the ribbon) out of the mailbox, they have seen it," he said. "If just for a moment they think about it."

Illinois-Carbondale has Christmas parade

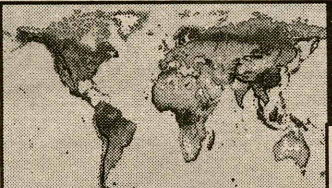
The Carbondale Police Department closed South Illinois Avenue Saturday night for sixth annual Lights Fantastic Parade for the biggest crowd the event has yet hosted. A record crowd watched about 70 floats and pedestrian entries, decorated with strands of electric Christmas lights, make their way down the Strip, Diane Dorsey, the Lights Fantastic Parade director, said.

"I would say we had in excess of 20,000 spectators," Dorsey said. Entries in the parade included a model of a cement mixer pulled by nine reindeer, the Carterville High School pom squad and a snowman in a cart pulled by six horses.

"Each of these floats used between 1,000 and 20,000 lights," Dorsey said. This year's parade was different from past parades in that there was no contest for best float. Even though there was no clear winner this year, the audience did have its favorites.

Dorsey said planning for next year's parade starts Monday. "We review what worked and what didn't work while everything is still fresh in everybody's head," she said. "We talk with some of the people who were in the parade and get their feedback."

WORLD NEWS



COMPILED BY JOE NOVEMBER '97

Saudis say Iran responsible for bombing of U.S. base

DHAHRAN — Saudi investigators have given the United States evidence of alleged Iranian involvement in a deadly terrorist bombing of a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia. Nineteen U.S. Air Force personnel died when a truck loaded with explosives blew up June 25 near the complex where the servicemen were housed in Dhahran. U.S. officials, however, have not yet concluded who was behind the incident and the White House says President Clinton has made no decision about any possible U.S. retaliation. Separately, an Air Force review of the bombing concludes that no Air Force personnel should be punished for failure to do their jobs. The conclusion is opposite of an earlier Pentagon study. Iran denies involvement in the bombing of Khobar Towers, and U.S. and Saudi officials refused to comment publicly on alleged Iranian participation. (CNN)

Nerve gas discovered in Tokyo after cult member confesses

TOKYO — Japanese police have found deadly combat gas in Tokyo, following a confession by a recently arrested Aum Supreme Truth cult member nicknamed the "killing machine." Some one to 1.4 ounces of the extremely toxic VX gas were found in a glass container buried in a river bank in Kodaira, western Tokyo. Police discovered the container late Wednesday, after the confession by Yasuo Hayashi, a 38 year-old militant member of the cult accused of releasing Sarin nerve gas in the Tokyo subway in March 1995. VX gas, which is ten times more powerful than Sarin, was developed by the United States after World War II, and there are no records of it being used in wartime. The cult's top chemist Masami Tsuchiya allegedly reproduced both Sarin and VX under the orders of cult guru Shoko Asahara. Followers still believe in the teachings of Asahara and are donating their salaries to fund the cult's activities. (Agence France-Presse)

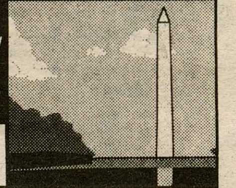
China pressures Disney Company on Dalai Lama film

BEIJING — China on Thursday said it never put pressure on the Walt Disney Co. for backing a film about the life of Tibet's exiled god-king, the Dalai Lama. "The Chinese government...has never put pressure in any way on the Disney Co.," Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang told a news briefing. Shen made his statements after reporters asked about a film industry letter that criticized Beijing for what it called attempting "to impose worldwide censorship" on China-related films. Last month, China reportedly blasted Disney for moving ahead with the production of the film "Kundun," based on the Dalai Lama. Beijing accuses the Dalai Lama of inciting unrest in the region. Despite Beijing's objections, Disney said it had no plans to cancel the film's release. It remains to be seen if Disney's involvement in "Kundun" will hurt its ambitious business expansion plans in China. (Reuter)

India and Bangladesh sign water treaty, promise future cooperation

NEW DELHI — India and Bangladesh signed a treaty Thursday to share the water of the Ganges River, ending a dispute that had been a major irritant between the two nations for two decades. The treaty ends India's arbitrary control of the flow of one of Bangladesh's main water arteries during five dry months, when 40 million Bangladesh farmers rely on the Ganges to avoid drought. India controls the Ganges' flow through a dam completed in 1974 at Farakka, 10 miles (18 km) from the Bangladesh border. The 30-year agreement, to be reviewed every five years, was signed in New Delhi by Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart H.D. Deve Gowda. Both leaders called the pact a historic event, which they said would usher in a new era of bilateral relations. The new treaty — a symbol of renewed trust and friendship between India and Bangladesh — comes on the 25th anniversary of the 1971 war in Pakistan that led to the birth of Bangladesh. (CNN)

NATIONAL NEWS



COMPILED BY JOE NOVEMBER '97

Army sex scandal widens

ABERDEEN, MD. — More than 50 women at the Army Ordinance Center and School in Aberdeen, Maryland, have said they were raped, assaulted or harassed in the last two years — more than double the number previously reported, *The New York Times* claimed Thursday. A captain and two drill sergeants have been charged with rape and sexual harassment in an investigation that has widened to include more than 25 drill sergeants and other instructors at the base. Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Indiana, the leader of a congressional delegation that visited Aberdeen on Wednesday said he believes the problem of sexual misconduct in the military is limited "to a few bad apples." Representatives said many drill sergeants told them they feel unjustly stereotyped as sexual abusers because of the Aberdeen investigation. Meanwhile, the Army is weighing the credibility of the women's complaints and attempting to determine the scope of the problems at Aberdeen and other bases nationwide. (Associated Press)

Ohio widows get yearly allotment of flour courtesy of freed slave

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio — For years, Yellow Springs has been keeping a list and checking it twice. But it's the widows, not the kids, who get the Christmas gift. Every year on Christmas, every widow in town gets a free 10 pounds of flour and 10 pounds of sugar, part of a century-old bequest from a former slave. "The first time I got it I didn't know whether to laugh or cry," said Pat Hubbard, whose husband died nine years ago. "So I did both." The widows' benefactor, Wheeling Gaunt, bought his freedom from a Kentucky slaveholder for $900 and moved to Yellow Springs — a stop on the Underground Railroad — in the 1860s. At his death in 1894, he donated nine acres of his farmland to the community on the condition it distribute 25 pounds of flour to its "poor worthy widows" every Christmas. The village, population 4,000, hasn't missed a Christmas since, though it's made some changes. From the first, the flour was given to all widows, apparently in the belief that that's what Gaunt would have wanted. In the early 1950s, the village cut the amount of flour and added sugar because, it reasoned, women were not baking as much bread anymore and might have use for sugar. There are now 110 widows on the distribution list. (Associated Press)

Clinton to keep Reno

WASHINGTON — After weeks of deliberately letting her dangle in the wind, President Bill Clinton is now expected to allow Attorney General Janet Reno to stay on for his second term. She and Clinton will meet soon to discuss her future. Reports had circulated since the election that Clinton was unhappy with Reno's performance. Reno has faced a great deal of criticism over the past four years because of her role in the Waco, Texas tragedy and in the Ruby Ridge, Idaho shootings. The consensus, however, among several top White House officials has been that the president can't afford politically to get rid of her. Reno is currently deciding whether or not to appoint special investigators to look into Democratic National Committee fund-raising. (CNN)

Retail sales mark poor start to holiday shopping season

WASHINGTON - Retail sales fell 0.4% in November, an ominous start for the all-important holiday shopping season. General merchandise and apparel sales, often purchased as gifts, both posted declines. Despite the lackluster start, most retailers are optimistic about sales prospects as Christmas nears—not expecting another dismal shopping season like the one many experienced a year ago. Anecdotal evidence suggested that sales picked up beginning the day after Thanksgiving, the traditional beginning of the shopping season, which accounts for as much as half of yearly sales and profits. Still, because the season has five fewer days this year—Thanksgiving fell on Nov. 28—many merchants had attempted to get a jump on the holidays. Pre-Thanksgiving sales and aggressive advertising were prevalent early in the month. Nevertheless, the Commerce Department says sales totaled a seasonally adjusted $206.1 billion in November, down from a revised $206.8 billion in October. Still, the 0.3% increase in October was a bit bigger than the 0.2% initial estimate. (Associated Press)

College grapples with compliance to Disabilities Act

By Brian Giacometti '99
News Staff Writer

NEWS ANALYSIS

Handicap accessibility at Hamilton is regarded by many students to be insufficient. However, the only regulations imposed by the government upon colleges are so vaguely worded that it is difficult to accuse any institution of incompetence. Only now is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 being defined in the courts.

In a nutshell, the 1990 offspring of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires that all programs and services are accessible to everyone. The act is civil rights legislation and its main purpose is to combat discrimination with "reasonable accommodations" for everyone. This term has yet to be defined.

A disability is defined as anything that disqualifies or limits an individual from doing something they would otherwise be able to do. But only "if you walk around campus with an image in your mind of what a barrier is, then limitations exist," says Louise Peckingham, Assistant to the President. Peckingham is the compliance officer at the College and part of her job is to make sure that Hamilton meets the guidelines of the ADA. She resurrected the ADA Access Committee to see this mission through. The old committee shut down in 1992 due to disinterest. Peckingham is sure to make certain that won't happen again.

The committee grew out of an information session sponsored in the beginning of the year by the RA's and the Dean of Students office. President Tobin appointed interested and capable faculty, staff members, and students to make up the eight person team, including faculty, staff, and students. Meeting every other Thursday this semester, the committee's progress is unknown due to a lack of publicity. Their biggest drawback is student's ignorance to their accomplishments. In other words, the committee has done everything possible at this point to fulfill their goal, scheduling thorough surveys and necessary alterations on campus.

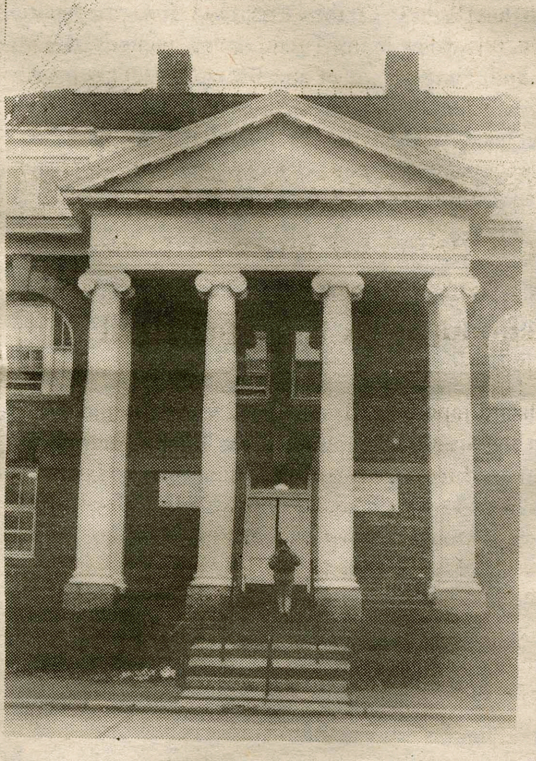


PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

Root Hall is one of Hamilton's facilities that is not accessible to the disabled.

The campus has proved to be very helpful in such matters. Classes are sometimes relocated in order to accommodate those with temporary disabilities, such as a broken leg. The committee has already received rain-checks for assistance from over a dozen people.

Peckingham feels that Hamilton is already a 9 on an accessibility scale of 1 to 10, that is, in good weather. The committee decided during a "brainstorm session" that clearing the paths in winter might require extra shifts by the Physical Plant during the late afternoon squalls we know so well. The campus usually develops on a situation by situation basis. The help is "individual" this way, at the college level assistance must be requested first.

Hamilton meets the expectations of the ADA, but what exactly does that mean? Peckingham claims that we go "beyond the law" in such matters to satisfy our own "personal code." While progress will continue, numerous buildings are currently accessible. To name a few: Carnegie, South, Admissions, Burke, Beinecke, and Wellin Hall are "sufficient," according to Hamilton code. Even adjustable computer tables in the Computer Center and a hydraulic lift into the pool are available if needed. But the Administration has not properly communicated this progress, which explains why the average student would shrug at the original question of adequacy.

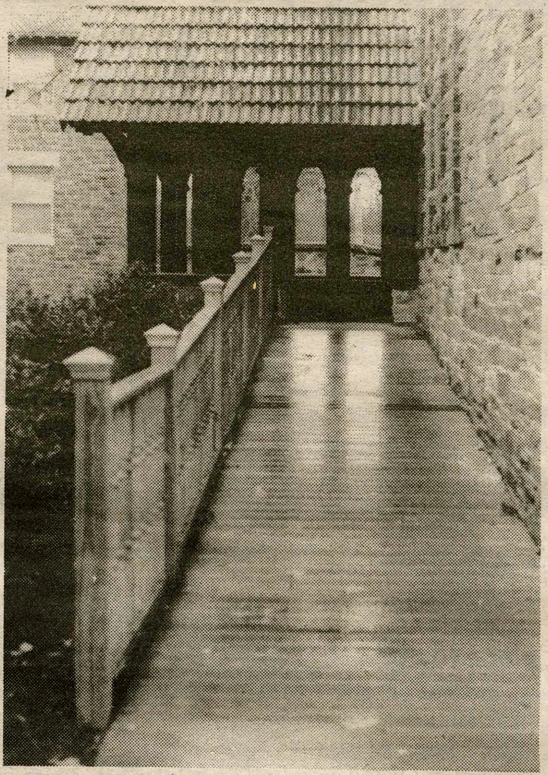


PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

The Soper Hall of Commons added an access ramp at the start of this semester.

Physical Plant has been a tremendous help to the committee, specifically committee member Anthony Poccia and Director of Physical Plant Art Jewitt have donated their efforts. Tension was released on the hinges of the heavier doors on campus, and a doorbell has been installed outside Commons for assistance. New ramps and curb cuts also add to the list of improvements to Hamilton. The school has financially backed the committee in full; Peckingham is thankful that a "budget has never been an obstacle" to any measure proposed.

The committee includes Assistant Professor of French Martine Guyot-Bender, Shaun Haskins '99, Faculty Secretary Heather Johnson, Heather Knowlton '00, Associate Professor of German Joseph Malloy, Chaplain Jeff McArn, Peckingham, and Poccia.

Future plans involve a building to building survey at the beginning of next semester. Each building will be matched against the ideal conditions outlined in a checklist covering entrance ways, doors, elevators, and facilities. After the check, the committee will ask the faculty of each building how accommodations are typically made and what they would like seen done. All will go into a report of preliminary recommendations and hopefully get the committee into the next budget cycle. If all goes well, the improvements will start to occur within the next year.

Little seems to be interfering with the completion of the access committee's ventures. Peckingham feels really hopeful about the year, and so far time is the only barrier. So, is there anything else that can be done? On Peckingham's wish list is access to McEwen and the second floor of KJ. McEwen is only accessible by way of a service elevator which can not be used alone and is flat out unacceptable for personal use. A renovation of this size is beyond the wonders of even Physical Plant. An architect would have to be brought in to determine the manner in carrying out this deed. Currently, it is not realistic, which is why Peckingham has reserved it for her wish list.

The elevators are another problem - currently they may be usable, but not with ease. If they do not meet up to the specific regulations, then the changes would be costly and laborious. Status quo might have to be acceptable in order to avoid superfluous changes.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, in reference to colleges, concentrates on discrimination in admissions. These new changes will make Hamilton more appealing to prospective students and will add to the comfortable physical image of the campus. But much more important, these changes will do exactly what the committee wants them to do. Our belief and definition of a disability will be changed, after all, what is a disability if it no longer disqualifies or limits?

Students elect new SA president, VP

From Election, page 1

"I was very nervous during the election," Greenspan said. "Steve and Audra have a lot of experience and they ran a very good campaign." Greenspan cited the Griss/Watt stickers being handed out on the eve of election day as an example of the solid campaign run by the write-in candidates.

Griss said that she decided to run for president during a leadership convention she attended in Boston with other Student Assembly members during the weekend before Thanksgiving. "Running for president was something I really wanted to do, but I didn't have a running mate," she said.

According to Griss, the Boston retreat provided the motivation she needed to begin a campaign, and she called Watt from Boston to arrange a campaign.

"We have the most experience of the candidates," Griss said, citing her own three semesters on SA and Watt's position on SA as well. Greenspan will have to resign as class president after being elected as SA president, and Griss said that she will run for the vacant office.

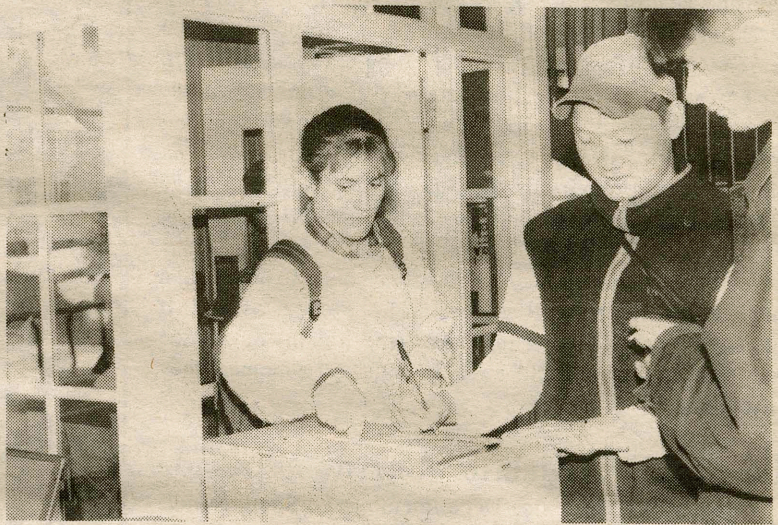


PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

Students voted in Student Assembly elections on Tuesday in Beinecke.

Greenspan, meanwhile, is already preparing to take office when classes resume in late January. "I'll be resigning as president of the Class of '99," she said. "Then, we'll be sending out a newsletter to the student saying what Student Assembly is, what it does, and we'll introduce ourselves."

The new president and vice president will also be busy with allocation of funds for student organizations, which apply for funding at the start of each semester. Greenspan said that SA would continue with its committees, such as the Cable Television Committee, in January, and it may also establish some new committees to serve student needs.

McGovern plans to continue to seek a position on Student Assembly, to attend SA meetings to stay informed, and to continue to try an be more involved on campus.

An election will be held after winter break to fill the vacant office of president of the Class of 1999

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Outdoor graduation becomes reality for Class of 1997

From Commencement, page 1

Tobin said the change will require that two sites be set up. In making the announcement, he recognized the extraordinary effort required to stage such an event and praised those who have made past commencements so memorable.

"We are fortunate to have people with the talent and dedication to be able to prepare such a wonderful send-off for our graduates," Tobin said. "The coordination for a celebration of this magnitude is extraordinary. While I recognize the extra effort required for an outdoor ceremony, I know students will be deeply grateful to those who are responsible for staging the event."

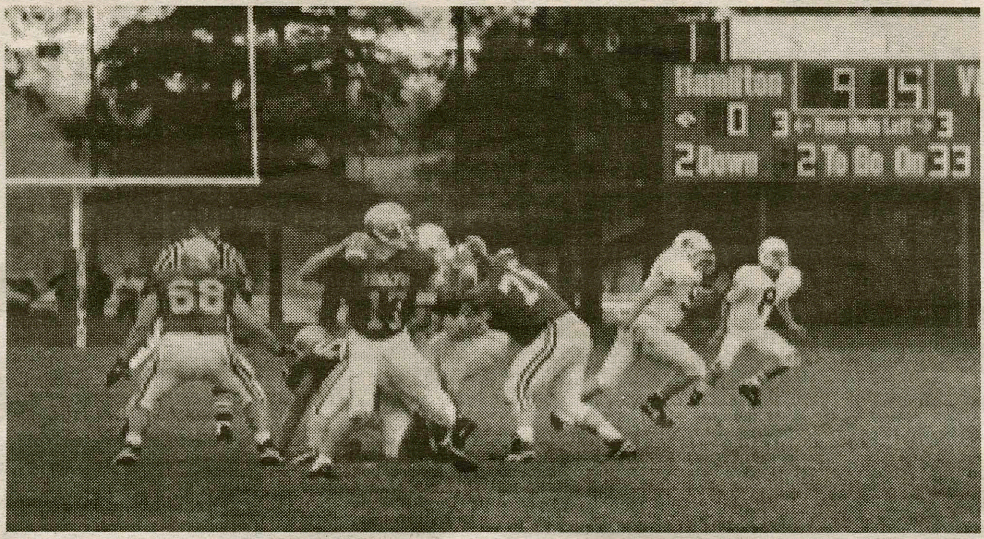

PHOTO COURTESY HAMILTON ATHLETICS

This spring, Steuben Field will be filled with graduates.

The baccalaureate service on Saturday, May 24 will also be held outside, on the Main Quadrangle near the Burke Library. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be moved indoors to the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Nearly 5,000 people attend commencement and 1,000 attend baccalaureate each year at Hamilton. Tobin said the changes being made for next spring are intended for all subsequent commencement and baccalaureate ceremonies in the foreseeable future.

Of the announcement, Tobin said, "Every Hamilton graduate deserves a memorable and spectacular graduation."

Nat Faxon '97 said, "I'm pleased that the College made the right choice. We should all enjoy the lovely springtime weather."

Senior seminar gives 'Narratives of Race'

By Sam Evans '00
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The students of Africana Studies Program Director Vincent Odamtten's "Narratives of Race" Senior Seminar gave their conclusive presentations on the topic in the Chemistry Auditorium, Monday afternoon.

Each student was asked to study one of the following: the work or works of either one author, or of two authors for comparative analysis, an exploration of a literary, critical or ideological issue raised in class discussions, or an analysis of narrative texts (genre open), according to Odamtten.

The one stipulation for the research papers was that Toni Morrison's arguments, presented in her 1992 book of essays Playing In the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination, should be the touchstone for their subsequent research and presentations. Apart from that, according to Odamtten, each student had the freedom to pursue his or her own intellectual inclinations.

"We all had to come up with a theory of race based on several American or English texts," said Christie Reed '97.

Alan Algee '97 discussed the secondarity of Black characters in films that relate to narratives of race. He focused on Spkie Lee's *Do The Right Thing*, and he argued that the movie addressed many pertinent aspects of Black expressionism in America.

> **"I was very pleased by...the willingness of the students to engage in discussion of difficult or controversial topics."**
> **—Professor Vincent Odamtten**

"I gained exposure to another literary genre, expanded my horizons and challenged some of the assumptions I had made about race," said Josie Collier '97, who presented a critical analysis of Kate Chopin's "The Awakening." "Having immersed myself in her work, I can now laugh at my racial preconceptions."

"In general, I was very pleased by the quality of the presentations, especially the willingness of the students to engage in discussion of difficult or controversial topics, such as gender and race, identity and creolization and the Black presence in Elizabethan and Jacobean drama," said Odamtten.

Other presentations, like the Seminar itself, did not focus exclusively on African-Americans, but included additional discussion of the Native American presence in early American literature, according to Odamtten.

"I think that the project has enabled the students to think seriously about issues of multiculturalism, race, gender, identity and their own attitudes about oppression, exclusion and inclusion in today's society, as well as in the past," said Odamtten.

"The presentations are a reflection of the College's committment to more public speaking in the class room," said Raphael Allen '97. "The course clarified ideals concerning racial identity in literature, especially in the novel."

Decisions, discussions fill Trustee Weekend schedule

From Trustees, page 1

President Andrew Edelson, the College Chaplains and psychologists in the Counseling Center. President Tobin said, "In light of Kristin [Wilson '99]'s and Kirsten [Willin '00]'s tragic accidents, this was a particularly poignant and relevant discussion of College policies and practices in times of crisis."

science facilities, on the curricular review of the faculty, and on facilities auditing from Dean of the Faculty Bobby Fong.

On Friday, trustees attended a scholarship donor-recipient lunch. Trustees who had donated scholarships to the college had a chance to meet and talk to the recipients of their donations. Later the same day, trustees joined members of the

PROPOSALS APPROVED BY TRUSTEES

- **Renovation, addition for former DU house**
- **$500,000 in improvements to Dunham**
- **Design development for Commons Hall**

The Board also heard reports of the Committee on Admission, the Budget and Finance and Investment Committees, as well as the Committee on Instruction. Budget model projections, investment performance, and preliminary projections of 1997-98 student charges, financial aid and compensation were reviewed. The Trustees' review emphasized "the current endowment spending formula," which will be discussed at future meetings as well. The Trustees also received reports on planning for the College's Class of 1997 for an afternoon reception in the Events Barn. The Board had dinner with Hamilton faculty and officers; afterwards, they attended the vigil service in the Chapel held in memory of Wilson and Willin.

On Saturday the Board attended a luncheon organized by the Kirkland Project for the Study of Gender, Society and Culture. The luncheon marked the end of a Trustee Weekend that will be remembered with its promising decisions for the future of Hamilton.

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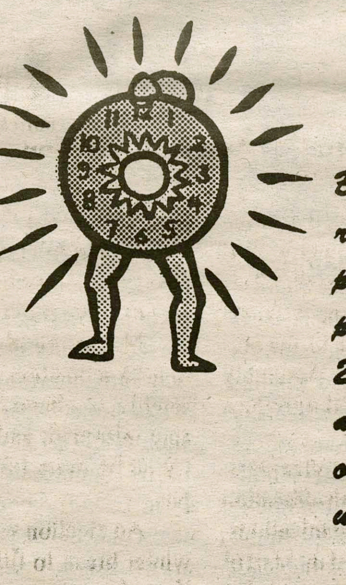

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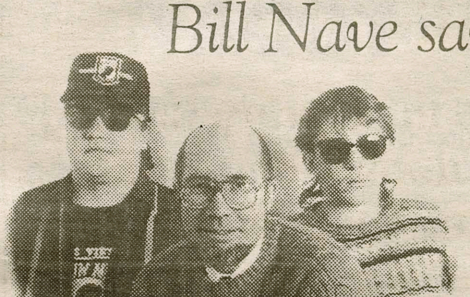

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The *Spec* reflects: A feature on Features

BY OREN HOMER RAWLS '99
FEATURES EDITOR
AND MATT FLYNN '00
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

After editing the "Ask Riley" column for the first five issues of the *Spectator*, we had just one question. Who the hell is Riley Fenner? It was a mystery that hounded us constantly, like a bad hangover, or Ben Mintz's op-ed column. No one on the *Spec* editorial staff had ever seen Riley. In fact, no one on the editorial staff had ever *talked* to Riley. Nonetheless, his column would show up in the features mailbox every Wednesday afternoon and, well, we just decided to go with it.

In fact there were a lot of things we "just decided to go with." Articles about Bev Low, Jeff McArn, and Julie Raynsford's family history were published in the true spirit of our feature section. What was that spirit, you ask? The same spirit that drives a certain, random first-year to wear shorts in the dead of winter. The same spirit that inspired two Hamilton students to "Rage" in the Sage. Indeed, it is the very spirit that led a psychic to predict the visit of an ax murderer to the Hamilton campus on the Geraldo Rivera show, proving that if it is in the media, it must be true.

And "truth" is what the *Spectator* features section is all about. What is the truth? Plato once said that truth is virtue, and virtue lies in fulfilling one's purpose. We at the *Spectator* have no purpose, and many could argue that we have no virtue either. So we look for truth in the sublime, and often find it in the ridiculous. It is the kind of truth one can only realize after calling Will Warren eight times in a night only to find that his "research" is going all too well. Warren's heralded series on Clinton's finest public houses were indeed well researched, and we owe him our sincerest gratitude for the many hard hours he spent in the name of investigative journalism.

But Warren was not the only features writer that enjoyed researching articles. Becca Savage and Fiona Thomas tasted everything from Cream of Sum-yung-gai soup to a spicy babaganouj. Like the food they critiqued, their restaurant reviews were both hearty and appetizing. We give them a collective *Spectator* "thumbs up" in the hopes that they continue their quest for a "well done" meal.

Speaking of "well done," Ivan Kasanoff's article on the former Delta Upsilon fraternity revealed a perspective that few Hamilton students have ever known. And in a way, "perspective" is what we're all about, because after all, you can't spell perspective without *Spec*.

We also brought you an extensive series focusing on articles from our *Spectator* archives. Why, you may ask? In all honesty, we had nothing else to put in that space; and at five o'clock in the morning, a thirty-year old article about a Playboy bunny begins to take on a certain appeal.

Which reminds us of the nude writer. In more ways than one, Damon Lanphear exposed the naked truths about life in Keehn Co-op. "My primary complaint with my mystical friends," he admits, "is that they often place me under spells which force me to prance about wildly pointing out that Sonny Bono is a member of the House of Representatives." Uh, yeah.

And so we come to the end. It was a semester filled with intrigue, deceit and goodwill. But mostly it was a semester filled with questions. Who *is* Riley Fenner?

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Jill Allen handicaps Hamilton's empathy towards the disabled

BY OREN HOMER RAWLS '99
FEATURES EDITOR

"Quit throwing your beer bottles around!"

Firstyear Jill Allen's words to the wise may sound like the advice of a meddling parent, but they are a plea for help. She has Cerebral Palsy, commonly referred to as CP. Allen's CP results from brain damage that occurred during birth or shortly thereafter, and affects her control of the legs and spatial awareness. She will soon have a new and improved wheelchair, albeit one with air in the tires. Hence, the offending shards of Old Mil bottles. Make no mistake, however; Allen is no helpless victim.

"If my wheels pop," she warned. "I'll be pissed."

Allen's ability to walk may be impaired, but her mind runs a mile a minute. She has choice phrases and numerous praises for the Hamilton community, and is eager to share them:

On educating the community: "I have gotten up in front of forty people and explained that I can have children."

On her spatial awareness: "I can't really see how to get from point A to point B without somebody else pointing out the direction because objects obscure the path."

On the disabled turned martyrs: "Part of the problem is that the disabled need to educate. It is easy to play the blame game and pretend that you're a victim."

On the empathy of the Hamilton community: "If actions are the basis for open-mindedness, then the Hamilton community is."

Awareness and initiative breed progress, and Allen is equally adept

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

How wheelchair accessible is Hamilton?

at opening minds and kicking derrieres. She makes her presence known without resorting to the role of crusading preacher or martyred victim. She hopes her efforts will result in change, both in the layout of the campus and in the eyes of her peers.

"I want to teach people whatever they want to know," Allen proclaimed. "The best way is to ask. No question is too personal."

Allen applauds the efforts the Hamilton community has made to make the college more comfortable for persons with disabilities, such as the response group formed to deal with such issues. She cautions, however, that there are still many stairs to climb. Oren Root Hall, the center of Hamilton's English department, lacks an entrance ramp and an elevator. As a result, Allen, a proposed English major, does not have access to many of the English classrooms and offices of the English professors. Her mobility is impeded by a lack of automatic doors on academic buildings, Burke Library, and Commons Dining Hall, and South is presently the only student dormitory accessible to wheelchairs. Although Hamilton is more accessible than many schools, there is still "something to be desired."

Jill Allen '00

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

Allen suggests that the "something to be desired" may be attained if Hamilton students become the catalyst for change. "Hamilton students are more approachable and friendly than society as a whole... The students need to take more initiative. Ultimately it has to be the students who spearhead change."

Allen believes that with proper education, Hamilton students have the capability to respond to the needs of the disabled. The significance of her belief is not purely theoretical, however. Allen is currently searching for committed female students to assist in performing her personal care. She seeks paid assistants for one hour each early morning, late-afternoon and bedtime. Applicants can reach Allen at 859-0157.

If Hamilton is to become a disabled-friendly community, Allen states, then the disabled, the students and the administration must join in a unilateral effort. "Its a two-way street and you have to work together to get things done."

TheAcropolis now in the heart of darkness!

By Becca Savage '99 and Fiona Thomas '99
Featurees Writers

In our investigation of area eateries, Shannon, Fiona and I have noticed a trend in the decor of ethnic restaurants. The Phoenician, Thai Cuisine and this week's feature, **The Acropolis Greek Restaurant,** are decked out with scenic posters from their respective countries. The origins of the wall hangings are not from the "homeland," however, but rather from "Karen's Travel Agent," as an advertisement on the wall in **The Acropolis** reveals. Nor do I give high marks to the rest of the decor: brown and pink is not my favorite color scheme. Add to my sentiments brown and beige plastic table cloths, and peachy wall paper as well as the brown "hand painted" portrait of the Acropolis. But do not let the cheesy ambiance deter you, because aside from that, the dining room is well lit and visibly clean. Large store front windows add to the airy quality and create a spacious atmosphere. The restaurant consists of only one room because it has been converted from what was previously the first level of a house. It is particularly inviting for couples who are seeking an intimate environment.

Our waiter was friendly and prompt in seating and serving us. He immediately brought out our drinks as well as Greek pita to nibble on. For those of you who are not familiar with Greek pita as apposed to Lebanese, the difference lies in use: Greek is commonly used for Gyros, Lebanese with Humus. Personally, I prefer Greek pita because it has a softer texture and tastes great when warm.

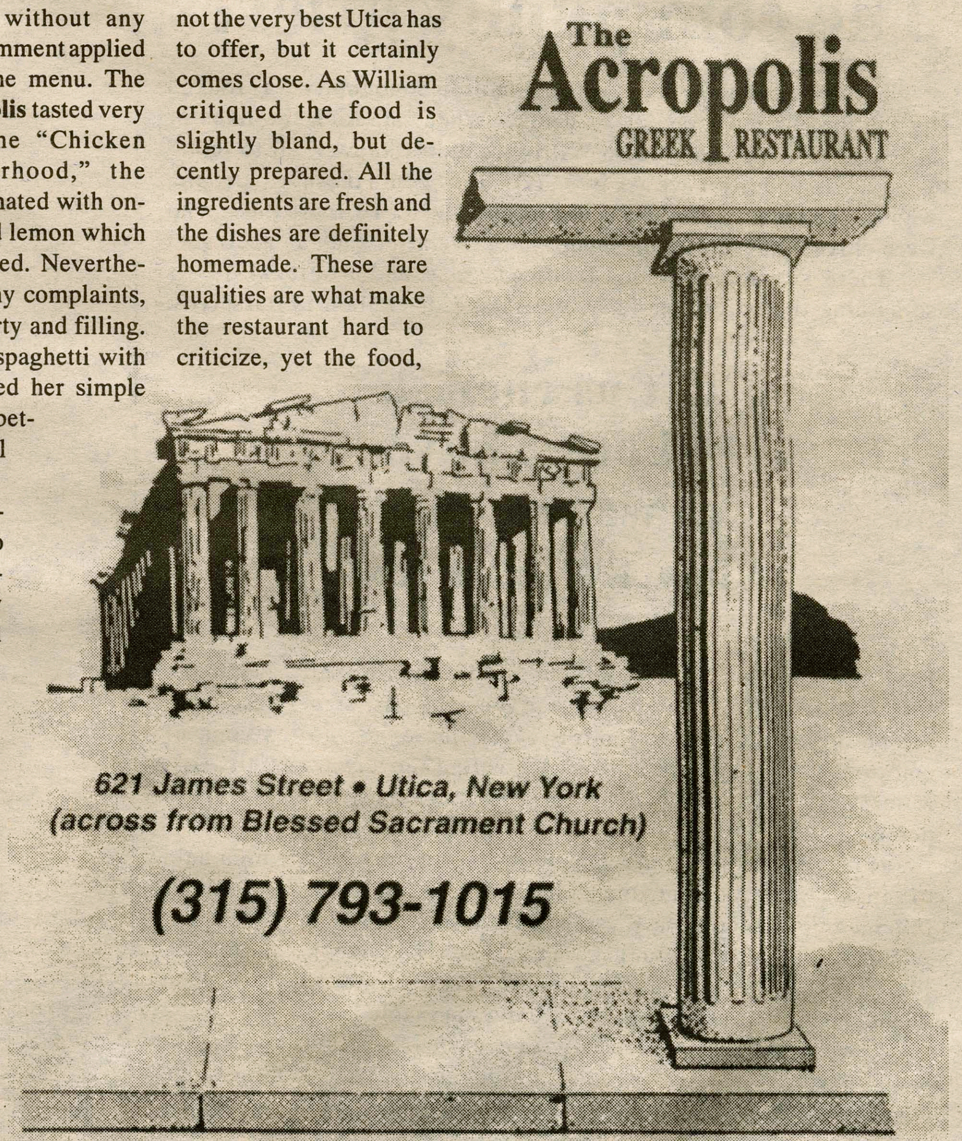
Not long after bringing our drinks our server returned to take our orders. Their selection does not disappoint; although as Benjamin Mintz, one of our guest critics, remarked, it is not as "Greek" as would be expected of an authentic Greek restaurant. There are a variety of vegetarian selections such as "Mousaka Acropolis," an eggplant dish, and "Vegetarian Sandwich," a pita filled with various vegetables and a Greek specialty dip. Aside from these entrées vegetarians can choose from a selection of soups and salads as well as both cold and hot appetizers. Mintz recommends the "Chicken and Egg Lemon Soup," the favorite among the dishes he ordered. Shannon and Fiona both give high marks to the "Stuffed Grape Leaves" (otherwise known in Greek as "Dolmathes"). The Dolmathes were stuffed with rice, onion, parsley, mint, pepper and dill and served with cheese. William Kinsella, our other guest critic, enjoyed the "Rice Pilaf" with vegetables, tomato sauce and grated cheese.

He noted, however, that the dish tasted "very basic without any spices." Kinsella's comment applied to the majority of the menu. The dishes at **The Acropolis** tasted very basic, including the "Chicken Souvlaki Neighborhood," the chicken breasts marinated with onion, pepper, wine and lemon which Shannon and I ordered. Nevertheless, I do not have any complaints, for the meal was hearty and filling. Fiona, who ordered spaghetti with tomato sauce, enjoyed her simple dish remarking, "It is better than Cafe Del Buono."

The chef definitely does not skimp on portions, as witnessed by the doggy bags we each carried out the door. Unfortunately, the entrées were so generous that we did not have any room left for goodies. If you do have room, I recommend ordering one of the restaurant's fetching desserts. These homemade Greek specialties range from "Baklava" to a "Saragli Nut Roll" and I am leaving it up to you to rate them.

To be honest **The Acropolis** is not the very best Utica has to offer, but it certainly comes close. As William critiqued the food is slightly bland, but decently prepared. All the ingredients are fresh and the dishes are definitely homemade. These rare qualities are what make the restaurant hard to criticize, yet the food, still lacks a certain pizzazz. On the whole, all five of us recommend **The Acropolis** as the perfect place for a simple yet satisfying meal.

The restaurant is very accommodating. In addition to the take-out menu and catering services, the restaurant will specially fix dishes which are not on the menu if you have a large party. **The Acropolis** is open between eleven a.m. and eleven p.m., Monday through Saturday. The restaurant is located on James Street in Utica; for directions call 793-1015.



THE ACROPOLIS

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Entrees:	Mousaka Acropolis, Baby Lamb Chops est: $6.65 - $11.95
Desserts:	Baklava, Saragli Nut Roll est: $1.75
Ambiance:	Plastic
Service:	Amicable
Overall:	✓✓✓

Key: ✓✓✓✓✓: Well done, ✓✓✓✓: Medium well, ✓✓✓: Medium rare, ✓✓: Rare, ✓: Raw

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EDITORIAL

The community grieves

For the third time this year the Hamilton community was rocked by the inexplicable tragedy of death. When fate took the lives of Kristen Williams and Kirsten Willin we didn't know what to feel.

The first question we ask is "why?" How could these two people, who had so much, so suddenly depart our world? How are those who were close to these women supposed to live after such an accident?

There are no answers. Death is crazy and irrational. It is something that we never fully understand or explain to ourselves.

Let us cherish what we have as we remeber what we have lost.

Each of us must search internally to decide how we are to react to the tragedies Hamilton has experienced over the past semester. There are no answers that will comfort every one of us, no textbook of emotions to tell us what we should be feeling and how we are to react. Mourning death is often a public process, but coping with it is highly personal.

It may be that beyond the memorials and the vigils, which help to support those closest to the victims of these tragedies, the best way to remember Quija, Ben, Kristen, and Kirsten may be to realize that it is impossible to explain their deaths, and recognize that there is no logic found in the loss of these people. Their memories will live on as we develop ways of coping with unimaginable loss.

Closure is a relative idea. With every ending, there is a beginning. The memorial service this Saturday may serve to remind some of us about the beauty and fragility of life. The way that words get in the way of expressing emotions is the same way daily routines get in the way of living. There is joy in life and celebration in living, and these things become crystallized when death stares us in the face.

Let us cherish what we have while we remember what we have lost.

Our thoughts are with the family, friends, and loved ones of Kristen and Kirsten.

SPECTATOR

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LETTERS TO·THE·EDITOR

Fellowship staff offers advice during tragic times

To the College community,

This week brought the tragic news of two more deaths in the Hamilton College community. For many of us, death has thus far rarely touched our young lives. Other have already lost loved ones, friends, and family. Death does not touch any of us easily, and we are all left with the question, "Why?"

As a person who has committed his life to God, I am asked this type of question often. Why did my friend/family member have to die? What did they do to deserve death? How could a good God allow such senseless tragedy? To be honest, there are no more difficult questions to answer.

The problem is, there are few good answers to them. If reasons do exist, we are not privy to them, and our friends/family are not any more or less deserving of death than anyone else. The seeming randomness of it all hurts deeply.

The only answer that has made sense to me thus far when coping with death has been "I don't know why this happened. But Jesus has experienced the pain of loss, Jesus endured the depths of innocent suffering, and Jesus will go through this with you."

The beauty of the truth of the life of Christ is that this is a God who suffered. Jesus is the God who knows what it is like to suffer, and did this so that we could know that He would be with us through our suffering.

Several years ago, Rabbi Kushner came to the Hill asking "Why do bad things happen to good people?" His answer was that God was powerless to prevent bad things from happening. The answer that Christianity gives is, "I don't know. But Jesus knows what it is to suffer, and He promises to be with you through it all."

Christmas is upon us, and for those whose lives have been deeply touched by tragedy, Christmas can be a poignant time. As we celebrate the Advent, let us remember and be comforted by the fact that at Christmas we celebrate the Arrival of the God who knows our suffering, and who cares enough to experience it first-hand.

Denes House '93
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Staff
Hamilton College

Alumnus sets record straight on parties

To the Editor:

Normally I wouldn't find the need to write a response to a *Spectator* article, but Mark Lilienthal's "Another Bundy Party?" (November 15) is just asking for it. My only concern now is choosing just which laughable points to attack.

After reading the article it seems that Mr. Lilienthal believes the College is responsible for the students' social life. When did the students' happiness at a keg party become the responsibility of the College? Now that the fraternities have been shut down, I believe the College should provide social spaces for large gatherings. But do these facilities need to be state of the art with room for up to 500 people? At a College of less than 1600 students? Of course not! It seems to me that there are enough social areas, from Bundy to North Court, to satisfy the needs of the student population. So what is Mr. Lilienthal really complaining about?

It seems to me that he is doing nothing more than whining. You mean students must actually take that long ten minute walk down to Bundy so the College can treat them to a party? And those "hideous red tile floors?" Oh, what a cruel and repressive Board of Trustees! And let us not forget how important these parties are for practicing social skills. In my day parties were for inane converstion and hooking-up. I guess things have changed. It seems that parties at the New Hamilton are for "discover(ing) new points of view." If this is the case then I agree; let's turn up the lights, turn down the music, stop spilling beer, and begin discussing what what we learned in Art History today. Had enough yet?

I think what needs to be done is for the student population to begin taking responsibility for their own fun and happiness and not expect someone else to do it for them. Little do you folks realize how wonderful your four years on the Hill will be. There are so many opportunities to learn, party and just be yourself (for the most part). Don't be like Mr. Lilienthal and act like spoiled babies. Seize the opportunities that a very generous college is offering you and run with them.

Rob O'Leary '92
United States Peace Corps
Ukraine

Students must remember that responsibility is a two way street

CHRISTIE REED
WEEKLY REED

An unprecedented event is taking place this week on the Hamilton campus. An organization known as BETA is sponsoring an art show in what was once the Sigma Phi Society house. The aim of this event is to exhibit student and faculty artwork in hopes of bringing the two communities together.

We, as students, often forget that we have a responsibility to this school as much as the school has a responsibility to us, and I believe that the Sigma Phi Society has honored this responsibility through their contributing efforts towards the Hamilton community.

How often do you hear students complaining about the social life at Hamilton, about the negative student-faculty interaction, about the lack of things to do on campus, about the need for appropriate social space? And the list goes on. The answer is...all the time. After hearing these same complaints repeated *ad infinitum* it becomes evident that those who express them, which would be about 99% of the student body, expect some fairy-administrator to fly down waving his/her magic wand, making everything perfect. Living at Hamilton, many of us forget that we also live on planet earth, and there are just some things that not even $28,000 a year can cure. You cannot buy happiness, you have to create it.

Yes, we do pay more than a lot of money to attend this college, and yes, that should mean that we are adequately provided for and then some, but it doesn't mean that we have the right to sit back and relax for 4 years, expecting to be catered to at every turn.

When I hear myself complaining, after a while I ask myself, "Okay, so what am I going to do about it?" So, when I hear you complaining I ask you, "So, what are *you* going to do about it?" Even though playing the victim always seems easier, this passivity accomplishes nothing. In truth, we do not always have control over a situation, but we do possess certain powers and responsibilities as students on this campus. One of these powers has been displayed quite maturely by the Sigma Phi Society.

So, here comes the statement that may make some of you laugh, and others angry; sell the remaining fraternity houses to the school, or at least make them available for use, and provide the college and future students with a better Hamilton.

I realize in making this statement, many of you believe that I could never fully understand the implications of such an act, or the importance of these houses to those of you who have lived within their walls under the unity of brotherhood. And I agree with you. I cannot claim to understand the significance of these buildings in the lives of some, but I do understand two things fairly well.

First, I understand that these buildings house the memories of *some*, but could be positive resources for *all*. Secondly, I understand that even though many remain unhappy about the Residential Life Decision, the fact of the matter is, the decision has been made, and we need to move on with our lives. Change is the only constant in this world, and we need to move along and progress with it.

Just imagine what could be done with these beautiful houses! What good does it do, allowing them to sit empty, gathering dust? Imagine walking or driving up the hill, or along Campus Road, seeing lights and activity once again and feeling that coziness that now seems so cold and deserted. It may not be the same activity some of us remember, but does that mean that providing these houses with new life is not worth it? Holding onto these houses under principle contributes nothing to our community, and in fact sacrifices the happiness of the whole for that of a few.

We need to remember that for those students following in our footsteps, these houses do not represent the same things that they do for the present junior and senior classes, and thus it seems especially unfair to punish them as well. Think beyond yourselves for just a moment and work for the Hamilton community instead of against it.

This holiday season, have fun and remember those less fortunate

OWEN GRANT
INHALE TO THE CHIEF

It is no coincidence that Thanksgiving falls in the last days of November. On this day, we give thanks for our privilege to live in a free society. We give thanks for the health of our family, its ability to congregate, and in general we give thanks for our good fortune. Quickly, though, we forget how much we have to be thankful for.

December too quickly rolls around, and all of our righteous notions of gratefulness, in some cosmic catalyst, transform into concepts of desire. To me Christmas is a month long celebration of the love of mankind, but I am starting to see that this is a farce.

For the holidays bring out our true characters. Do you enjoy receiving gifts more than giving them? Do you really have undying love for your family? Does it concern you that your family is not the perfect nuclear family, with a Lab or a Golden Retriever in front of the fire, and some twisted, Martha Stewart-like figure, bearing baked gifts in an apron? For a lot of people, the holidays are a time when they realize how sordid their family really is.

I say that if this is the case, it should make the holidays that much more rewarding. The theme of being forced to love unconditionally and repress your real human emotions around Christmas serves as the theme for several classic works. *A Prayer For Owen Meany* by Jon Irving, one of the greatest novels of the twentieth century, is one such example.

I will not paraphrase the scripture, so if you are looking for a book to read over our sabbatical from school, I suggest reading *A Prayer For Owen Meany* (If you can't find the book under that title, please see *The Granite Mouse Named Jesus*, or *Blessed is the Lord, Owen Meany*).

I am already consumed by the Christmas spirit. On December 5th, I saw the tree at Rockefeller Center as it was illuminated. This moment is one of the few instances where a holiday tradition exceeded my expectations.

You see, the tree was brought to the majestic skating rink in New York City by the same men who have done so since 1978. The Muriello brothers of New Jersey, renowned landscape architects, find a tree each year in the tri-state area, and prepare it for transport.

It is quite a process, and as my eyes lit up, with the reflection of the tree's lights, they have succeeded each year. They come together, embrace their goal, work together to realize their potential and annually amaze thousands of onlookers with their current specimen.

It is expectations, I think, which lead people to be disappointed the day after Christmas and too drunk on New Years Eve. When our ideal world differs greatly from our holiday reality, we drink heavily, overeat, and are generally depressed. I think I might have a solution to this problem.

Give a gift to someone less fortunate than you. If you are saying that you can't afford a gift, that is ridiculous, for as underprivileged as you may be, there is someone out there much worse off than you. Besides, if you can't afford to buy a gift you can make one for free or volunteer your time. Do a good turn, an act of unbargaining service, whatever you want to call it, but just do it.

When you don't get the gift you wanted, or if your secret Santa openly disapproves of your selection for him/her, don't worry. If you have given someone a gift from your heart (in my experience it works best if you do not know or see this person, for if you do have contact with your recipient, either consciously or subconsciously, you expect something in return), you can be satisfied knowing you touched someone who needed to be shown that this world can be magnificently nurturing.

Right now, there is no reason that external heartache should leave you any less reticent towards the season. Do not be dismayed that a teacher of yours has given you the questions to your exam, but won't let you take it until the 22nd of December. Be ever mindful that the holidays are a sensitive time for a lot of people, because many individuals feel overwhelmed with commitment at this time and must leave it. They walk out on their families, forever. But do enjoy the season.

Perhaps the notion of receiving gifts for the holidays is a childish expectation that we outgrow. Perhaps college is where we mature into responsible adults.

I just got a flash of Fox Meadow Elementary school, 1984. The kickball field. Andrew Woodard, having been called out at first, is now running off into the woods, with our ball, crying, flailing, screaming, "If I can't win, no one will play."

Do ask yourself based on these examples from respected adults of this community, "Is college a place were we grow up, or hide from really maturing as human beings?" And do give a gift to someone less fortunate than you. I promise that this will get you closer to the spirit of the holiday; compassion for your fellow man. I wish everyone a happy holiday season. Please do not drink and drive.

LETTERS TO•THE•EDITOR

Sign up for e-mail account to help conserve College resources

To the Editor:

Everyday, large sums of intra-college mail circulate through the mail center. These provide valuable information to the members of the Hamilton community and therefore serve an important role. However, this process has high costs. The school devotes a lot of resources to the porcess in the form of human time/energy, machine time and paper.

There is a way that intra-college information can be transmitted via internet by using e-mail. The school invested heavily to provide internet access to all the dorm rooms. Now, students and faculty have immediate access to the internet. In particular, most students and all of faculty have e-mail accounts. Therefore, if the intra-college information is circulated with e-mail, it will reach a majority of the campus. Such a change in policy will reduce human and material costs associated with the process without decreasing the quality of process.

Please help to improve the campus by signing up for correspondence via email during registration in January. There will be guidelines for the e-mail information service. Be on the look out for changes in the near future. Go Blue!

Anonymous

LETTER AND OP-ED POLICY

The Spectator's Letters and Op-Ed section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, and national issues. Letters to the Editor and opinion pieces are welcomed from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, staff, and friends of the College. Nevertheless, _The Spectator_ does have editing policies for contributions.

1. Submissions are due by 6:00 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Submissions can be sent to _The Spectator_ via campus mail, email at "spectator@hamilton.edu", or sent to one of the Letters and Op-Ed editors. Submissions can also be dropped off at _The Spectator's_ office on the third floor of the Bristol Campus Center. The editor reserves the right to refuse any late submissions.

2. Letters should be no more than 600 words, and the editor reserves the right to edit opinion articles for length. _The Spectator_ will also edit for misspellings, typographical errors, poor grammar, as well as diction. If specified, the editor will inform you of the changes. _The Spectator_ also reserves the right not to print letters, or opinion pieces.

3. If the editor determines that a piece may be libelous, or an unwarranted invasion of privacy, then the piece will not be printed. _The Spectator_ reserves the right to correct factual inaccuracies or to refuse to print a piece due to factual inaccuracies.

4. The editor also reserves the right to return the piece to be rewritten.

5. If possible, all pieces should be submitted on a Macintosh double density disk along with a hard copy, but typed letters will also be accepted.

6. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed. However, letters may be printed with the names withheld upon request, subject to the discretion of the editors.

Mintz responds to letter about Chinese Cultural Revolution

This week's column marks the end of my third semester writing Grey Matters. I was searching for an appropriate topic for quite some time; unfortunately, Amanda Kogut's letter attacking my column and me provided me with one. I did not look forward to squandering my newspaper space and time rebutting her, but felt it necessary because of the number of inaccuracies and insulting remarks that the piece contained.

Ms. Kogut is upset by my grammar; she accuses me of "misspellings, poor grammar, and misuse of diction," as well as places the label of "poorly written" on my column. In addition, she insists on babbling about her use of the dictionary. Well, Amanda, I have a word for you to look up: hypocrisy. The letter in which you tossed out these accusations nearly had as many grammar errors as there are bicycles in Shanghai. The document contained grammatical faults most Hamilton students stopped making around the time they graduated elementary school. For example, run-on sentences are not an accepted convention of the English language.

Furthermore, your sentence structure was so poor that the very editor you criticized was forced to protect himself from further attacks with about eight "*sic*"s. When I was permitted to view the original version of your attack, I noticed even more errors which had been corrected prior to press.

Ms. Kogut says of the Cultural Revolution, "It's a part of their history the Chinese would like to forget." At first, I appreciated the comment, but after thinking about it the asinine nature of the statement became apparent. I have always been taught to learn from history. Those who do not shall be destined to repeat it. I do not think this concept is radical in any fashion; I do think it is ignorant to advocate forgetting a portion of history because of its negativity. If many died, that is only more the reason to remember the era. Amanda, never forget!

Ms. Kogut asks me why I did not look up the Cultural Revolution; she questions, "If you didn't understand it, why didn't you just go to someone for help?" This question was ignorant, although not as ignorant as the previously discussed accusations. Unfortunately, the insulting nature of the question compensates for the lack of ignorance. Amanda, I did indeed ask someone for help. I asked about eight textbooks on the subject. I asked articles from respected academic journals. If you had read all of my article, you would have noticed that I am even taking a class called, "China's Cultural Revolution." (In your letter, you discussed your tendency to "forget" readings, I luckily do not share this poor study habit. In fact, in my Cultural Revolution class my midterm grade was topped by no one.) Amanda, this particular criticism is one that is blatantly false; it is nothing more than a malicious character attack. In journalism, that is known as libel.

BEN MINTZ
GREY MATTERS

Ms. Kogut's views were hard to discern as her article deteriorated into a jumble of bad writing and political correctness. However, I was able to discern that she felt I was a failed satirist because I had compared a menial event to a major historical one. The novel *Animal Farm* compares a farmyard to a period of European history. I suppose that according to Amanda Kogut's criteria, its author, George Orwell, would be classified "a complete failure."

I will indulge in a little bit of self-criticism. Yes, maybe I dwell on some topics, and sometimes they are not as severe as I portray them. However, one has to understand Grey Matters is meant to be taken with a grain of salt. Furthermore, one must remember when one discusses Hamilton, the bottom line is somewhere around twenty-seven thousand dollars a year. While there are starving people in the world, they do not pay several thousand dollars to live that life-style.

Next week, we will be finishing finals or perhaps be home already. I do not know what Ms. Kogut's whereabouts will be. I hope that this ridiculous and unneeded exchange will be behind us at that point. As the winter begins, I hope we will be able to criticize policies and have constructive change as a result. Perhaps, instead of concentrating on trivialities of the medium which contained the complaints, Amanda and our administration will take them for what they are worth.

The semester in review: a look at Letters and Op-ed Fall 1996

When I first took the helm of the Op-ed section in the late summer, I was quite apprehensive as there was only one returning columnist. 13 issues later, I'm still quite apprehensive as the columnists continually fail to turn in their columns on time. Throughout the semester, a number of people have approached me about the possibility of writing a column, and four people actually stepped up and became regular columnists, the most we've had in recent memory.

Ben Mintz continued his "Gray Matters" column, tackling issues ranging from poorly placed boulders to Hamilton fashion trends to a controversial allegory involving the Cultural Revolution. Mark Lilienthal and Christie Reed returned from abroad and discussed issues in a more benevolent manner. Mark reminded us of the many privileges we have here on The Hill, and pointed out a few problems as well, reminding us to pick up our litter and that keg parties in Bundy don't comprise the greatest college social life. Christie provided a voice of thoughtful restraint amidst the chaos as she showed us ways we can help the community and by not letting the Senior Class forget that they aren't too cool to have a little fun at the senior dinner.

No one will soon forget Owen Grant's "Inhale to the Chief," which tackled serious issues and often bordered on the absurd. Owen showed us the parallels between the U.S. bombing of Iraq and the closing of the beloved underclassmen watering hole, The Garden. Owen seemed to be a master at drawing parallels, comparing politics to baseball and Hamilton to Texaco. Owen was the *Spec*'s rogue staff member, as he complained incessantly about my choice of titles for his column and put a fellow columnist out of commission for a few issues in a Norman Mailer esque blend of journalism and street fighting.

A number of guest columnists also graced the pages of Op-ed this semester as well. Peter Kelly returned to share his thoughts on the state of the environment in his "Reasonable Resolutions" column and Kristin McGuiness reminded the Hamilton community that there is life beyond the confines of our beloved institution. Constantine Karamanlis debuted his "Global Perspectives" column with a piece focusing on Mediterranean (or is that Mediteraenean?) society. Constantine also has the honor of being the victim of the worst mistake in my editing career, a fact he reminds me of daily.

DAN
McALLISTER

On a more intellectual note, the feisty Eiko Tsunematso created "Socrates Laughs" which featured students and faculty debating issues ranging from academic neutrality to discrimination in language. The "Pro-Con" remained a frequent highlight this semester as well, though I was frequently forced to play devil's advocate when I couldn't find community members to argue against issues such as recycling and outdoor graduation.

The Spectator also served as a forum for the community in the form of Letters to the Editor. Hamilton will not soon forget Stacey Corbin's brave and riveting account of her tragic experiences with sexual harassment at a recent party. Stacy's letter provided a focus for discussion both in and out of the classroom.

On a lighter note, Constantin Laan wrote to us espousing a need for cheerleaders at Continental football games, explaining that they comprised a fundamental element of Americana.

Photographer Ritu Monga continued to pose provocative questions to the Hamilton community in the form of the Voice Box and a new feature, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down was added as well.

Finally, the Op-ed pages allowed *The Spectator* editorial board to express its own views in the form of the weekly editorial. We tried to focus on issues concerning Hamilton, and to both point out problems and highlight the positive. By far our most controversial editorial was the one from the November 8 issue, which dealt with the Residential Advising system. It drew a number of attacks from several community members who rushed to the defense of RA's, pointing out their many useful roles in letters to the editor.

All in all, Op-ed proved to be a vibrant, provocative forum this semester as community members expressed their diverse views in a number of ways ranging from the troubling to the controversial to the borderline absurd. I hope that the vibrancy and controversy continues next semester and into the coming years.

Hamilton students, faculty, guilty of end of semester behavior

I am guilty. You are guilty. The entire Hamilton community (you too faculty) is guilty of saying exasperatingly annoying things like, "God, I have so much work." The past two weeks have been a sign of the ugliest, but nonetheless normal and permissible egotism. It rears its ugly head out" at. But this week, students go into a (gasp!) sober slumber, where we stay up until three in the morning doing things that our parents might even qualify as "productive" or "worthwhile." Our social life suffers for the glories of academics. Where are the view book photographers? are.

> **"What is most ludicrous is that students proclaim their misery as if they are fighting a personal battle of magnificent proportions. I laugh when people tell me of their woes this week; surely people do not believe that they are only in their crusade against the academic machine?"**

during the final two weeks of every semester, twisting and turning in the libraries of our minds. But instead of being a weak point of our community, our little bouts with our egos are actually quite amusing. Let's look at some of the best questions, comments, and observations since our return from Thanksgiving.

"Are you going out tonight?" perhaps the funniest, most audacious question of the week. Hamilton is, I think, a pretty good school to "go "Do you have our papers to give back to us today?" Yeah, right. One thing I have always enjoyed is professors telling students that they are really *busy*. Now, I am certainly not discounting their work load; far from it. I do find it amusing and ironic, however, that the people teaching students and administering the homework (to revert to high school vernacular) continually explain their duties to their subordinates...as if we couldn't understand how *busy* they

My personal favorite, the cream of the crop, the absolute best one is "I am so stressed out with work." The most baffling thing about the statement is that students say it with "Saturday Night Live" caliber gesticulations, complete with voice inflection that rivals Chris Farley. What is most ludicrous is that students proclaim their misery as if they are fighting a personal battle of magnificent proportions. I laugh when people tell me of their woes during this week; surely people do not believe that they are only in their crusades against the academic machine?

Obviously, I do my fair share of griping; it makes the notorious Hamilton pastime of "dealing" all the more enjoyable and amusing. What tickles me is that students can never get sympathy during this particular week. In mid-November, people with papers, exams, etc. capture the hearts and pity of their fellow students. During this week, however, I have alternated between rolling my eyes when people whine and making other people listen to me and look at me with eyes that couldn't care less.

MARK LILIENTHAL
GLASS HOUSES

So, troops, congratulations. We managed to make it through another final week of semester classes. Through misery and gray weather (are they synonymous?), we have attained new levels of excitement and ascended to new and unexplored levels of peer annoyance.

Here's raising my social glass (or plastic cup when the Rok runs out of the aforementioned...could it have something to do with underclassman attendance?) to the first week of next semester, when we are again liberated from the confining chains placed upon our chafed wrists by the daunting monster we know as the Hamilton College classroom.

ONLINE
The Spec

www.hamilton.edu/html/news/studentmedia/spectator/

THE • LAUGHS OF • SOCRATES

The influence of language : does language effect culture?

I learned English in a Japanese high school. Any interesting words I found in a dictionary I fit into the sentence structure I had learned. One day, in a composition class, I put my creative sentence on the blackboard. The teacher came in, looked at my creation, and said that it was not an English sentence. "This may be grammaticaly correct, but native speakers don't think in this way."

The next session of composition class was taught by a native speaker. He thought in a different way. I thought he was so strange—this person who made us sing Gilligan's Island. I wanted to open his skull to see the IC circuit inside in order to learn the language.

These days, I have learned that there are better ways to see the language than to break someone's skull. Thank God, I have not opened any human skulls yet. **--Eiko Tsunematsu**

A few words on language, culture and society

Is language simply "a system for communication?" Not simply that, no. Through language, human beings take the world in all its cognitive and social complexity, and sort it into fairly neat categories. Without language to encode the world, everything in the world that is not physically there (trees, rocks, etc.) would vanish. The whole world of human invention, which is the world we all know, rests on this coding system which has existed (in the form of 3000+ human languages) for, conservatively, over a hundred thousand years.

What we think of as words and grammar are, in fact, the categories that make up the world we know. Words are not just labels for things, and most "things" are not physical anyway— they're qualities, ideas, concepts, emotions. They are real because people share them and believe in them. Underlying all words are complex arrangements of concepts about size, shape, color, gender, location, motion, duration, and so on. Even more abstractly, there are ideas about what is positive, negative, present, absent, known, unknown, potentially known; about who or what does what to whom, and why, how, when, where. What is so miraculous about language is that the neurology underlying these categories is hard-wired. Our brains evolved that way.

But language does not just sit there in a vacuum. People use it. Every time people use language, in any way, written, spoken, signed, or whatever, that usage is saturated with the conditions in which it happened. Those conditions shape who talks (or writes or signs) to whom, and how and why. Those conditions reflect social distinctions—class, gender, race, ethnicity, region, occupation—and the power differences that shape and channel human relations. Sociolinguistics is the branch of linguistics that examines just connections. It often overlaps with historical linguistics, which studies how languages change over time, which often overlaps with contact linguistics, the study of multilingual situations and creole language formation. Creole languages evolve from complex roots: for example, Caribbean creoles, formed during slavery, drew from both African and European languages as slaves and their descendants, robbed of their native languages, worked out new ones. Professor Jean D'Costa, here at Hamilton, has co-authored an important two-volume study of Jamaican creole.

Linguistic anthropologists—I include myself here—study language in its cultural context: the beliefs, practices, values and concepts related to language. Our work often overlaps with sociolinguistics and contact language studies. My own research has been on Spanish-English bilingualism in New York City, first on code-switching (rapid switching between languages) and, later, on people's experience of linguistic prejudice as thinly veiled class and race prejudice. Other linguistic anthropologists study the performance of oral poetry or other verbal arts, linguistic socialization in different communities, language and ritual, the cultural organization of vocabularies, language and nationalist ideologies, language and science— the list grows and changes every year.

One of the most common questions about linguistic anthropology is about the so-called Sapir-Whorf hypothesis: does language shape culture? I put that question in its most commont form, and in that form, it is unanswerable. Nor, by the way, did either B.L. Whorf (a fine amateur descriptive linguist) or Edward Sapir (one of the best minds in linguistics) conceive of it as a hypothesis. Rather, they posed questions. How do languages shape ideas about experience that has no tangible reality—time, for example? Are there connections between how a grammar works and how its speakers think about the world around them? Do those connections come out in, say, art or rituals or spiritual beliefs? All these are intriguing ideas; none is a disprovable hypothesis. Nor should they be taken that way. The ideas that Sapir and Whorf explored in their studies of Native American languages have provided their intellectual descendants, myself included, with abundant food for thought. In the past fifteen years, their ideas have been re-examined and re-interpreted in a clearer light and the pay-off has been a rich array of inspired studies of language as a complex, ever-changing human phenomenon.

Bonnie Urcioli
Associate Professor of Anthropology

Language: a system of signs, symbols and linguistics

Acquisition of language has been a major debate for many psychologists. While Noam Chomsky, the father linguist, would argue that the process is innate, connectionists oppose him by presenting the social aspects of how we come to develop an organized system of signs and symbols. Both sides have valid arguments. Language is a product of organized symbolic thinking that requires biological and social base. According to the innateness theory, we already have the capacity to organize sets of symbols. Our brain is *tabula blasa* (blank plate), so to say, and we are ready and capable of filling it. The best support for the innateness argument comes from studies on children's language acquisition.

If you have ever intermingled with a three year old, you must have realized how distinct their understanding of the world is compared to yours. The distinction is not only apparent in perspectives of objects and self, but also in symbolic thinking that is displayed by their speech. Children are the key to understanding how we acquire language, since they employ strategies for decoding symbols of the outside world unconsciously. W...hout realizing it, they figure out the intricacies and the rules of mental grammar that most linguists have spent years trying to define. Often we hear a three year old say a phrase like "She goed to the door" or "Nobody does not understand me." In these sentences they display an innate understanding of the correspondence of grammar and time. What they miss is the correct syntax proposed by the rules of the language they have just begun to acquire. The sentences they form clearly exhibit their comprehension of a general linguistic rule that is cross-cultural. The observations of cross-cultural development of language have brought much insight to the understanding of whether language is biological, social or both. Studies of the pidgin language, for instance, report that across colonial languages, all pidgin languages display the same grammatical and syntactic format. These observations add much support to the innateness argument.

Interestingly, the argument for an innate knowledge of language has a deep implication; the human brain contains a biologically determined specialization for language. Scientists have found that neurons are wired to acknowledge several sounds and connect them with their representations. The channels for the most often used sounds and symbols remain and become stronger, whereas the channels that are not used as often gradually wither away. Thus, many scientists wonder whether there is a universal grammar that children unconsciously learn. If there is, how is mental grammar constructed?

The biological explanation for the development of symbolic thinking, in and of its own, is fascinating. Nevertheless, it does not work by itself. The social context often reinforces what is socially acceptable and efficient in language usage. The usage of the generic "he," mentioned in the previous article, is a social phenomena. The understanding and association of gender specific language is culture-based and its appropriate usage is often reinforced by the society or the culture. Often, words have meanings other than their simple dictionary definitions. Society gives words the meaning, and individuals decode the correct meaning with the aid of memory and knowledge. I believe this is where politics of language intersects with psychology. The usage of the generic "he" is culturally defined, but our acquisition of what he/she stands for is biological in that they are symbolical signs that represent concepts.

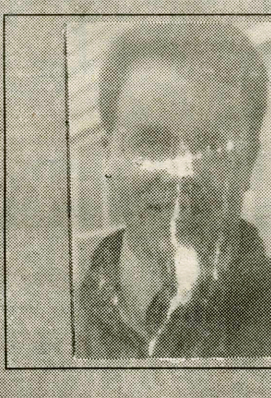
Öykü Kalaycioglu '97

V O I C E B O X

What is the purpose of Student Assembly?

Tim Koumrain '97
"The purpose is to hear the view points of all the students on campus and to take into account their viewpoints in decision making."

Savitri Ramharak '99
"To allocate and distribute money for student activities."



Mark O'Gorman
Instructor in Goverment
"To be a voice for the students and a place to channel their activities constructively."

Justin Lew '99
"To serve the students in making the College a better place for all of us."

SECURITY BLOTTER

compiled by Joe Freeman '00

December 1
2:02PM- The fire alarm in Bristol was triggered by a smoke detector.
5:00PM- A smoke detector triggered a fire alarm in the Chemistry Building.
9:41PM- The fire alarm went off in Minor after being triggered by a faulty detector.
10:40PM- Security responded to a case of harassment in Macintosh.

December 2
5:50PM- The security alarm went off in Alpha Delta Phi House.
10:00PM- Security received a harassment complaint from Kirkland.
11:40PM- A fire alarm was triggered in Dunham by a system malfunction.

December 3
7:45AM- A case of larceny was reported in Carnegie

December 4
1:35PM- A case of criminal mischief was reported on South Campus.
8:20PM- A mysterious fire alarm went off in C. Johnson.
9:15PM- A case of vandalism was reported in Root Residence Hall.
11:35PM- A malfunction triggered the fire alarm in South.

December 5
12:38AM- The fire alarm was pulled in Bundy West.
2:25AM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Minor.
1:45PM- The fire alarm was triggered by a somke detector in Babbitt.
5:15PM- A microwave was stolen out of Milbank.
8:23PM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Milbank.

December 6
9:20AM- Burnt food set off the fire alarm at Griffin Rd.
11:28AM- A case of larceny was reported in North.
8:45PM- Security responded to a noise compaint and confiscated bulk alcohol from Carnegie.
9:05PM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Carnegie.
9:40PM- Security investigated a case of lawn damage on the Golf Course.
11:10PM- Security confiscated bulk alcohol out of Milbank.

December 7
12:36AM- Security investigated a motor vehicle accident on College Hill Rd. in front of Psi Upsilon House.
1:20AM- The fire alarm was pulled in South.
2:35AM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Bundy West.
3:55AM- Security responded to a report of vandalism in Dunham.
4:40AM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Dunham.
8:45AM- Lawn damage was discovered on Minor Field.
1:24PM- A faulty detector set off the fire alarm in Macintosh.
4:26PM- A smoke detector set off the fire alarm in Keehn.
8:50PM- Security confiscated a keg from South.
11:35PM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Bundy West.

December 8
3:48AM- The fire alarm was mysteriously set off in Commons Dining Hall.
5:45AM- A case of car vandalism was discovered in Root Lot.
9:10AM- Security discovered a case of vandalism outside of Delta Upsilon House.
6:45PM- A fire alarm was triggered by a faulty detector in Bundy East.

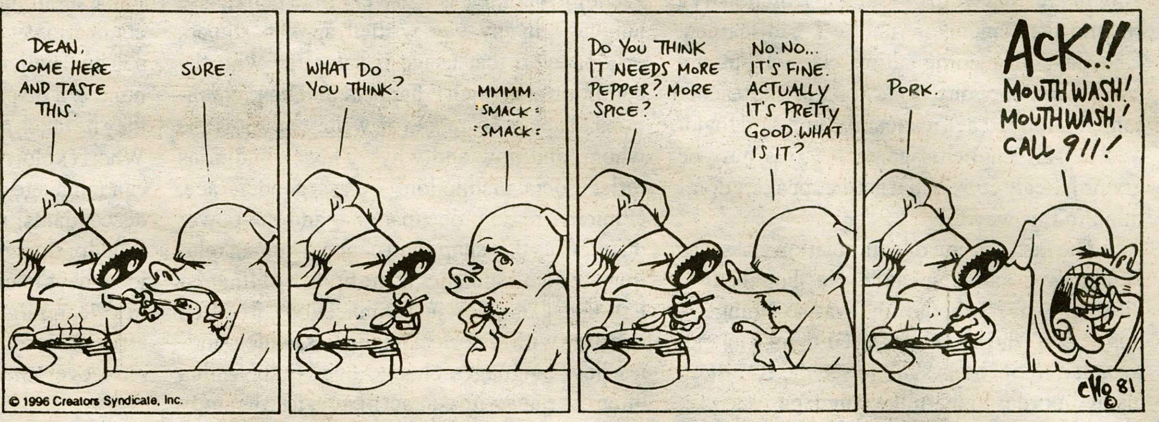
December 9
8:20PM- The intruder alarm was triggered at Psi Upsilon House.

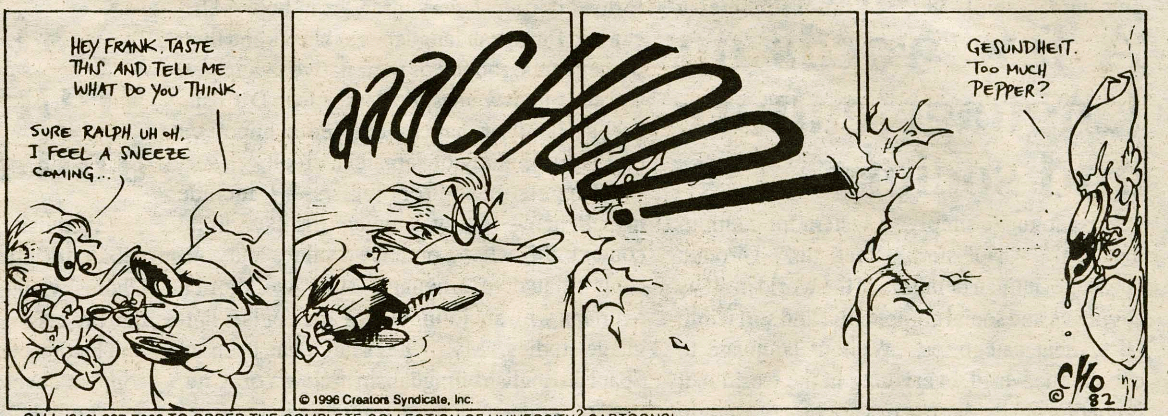
December 10
3:20PM- The fire alarm in Alumni Gym was triggered by a malfunction.
7:30PM- A case of harassment was reported at Keehn.

December 11
1:45AM- Property damage was discovered in the Fieldhouse Lot.
6:50PM- A case of larceny was reported at BLSU House.
10:36PM- HCEMS responded to a medical emergency in Babbitt.

December 12
1:25AM- Security investigated reports of a fight in the Dunham Quad.
11:20AM- Security investigated a case of vandalism by spray paint in Dunham.

UNIVERSITY² by Frank Cho





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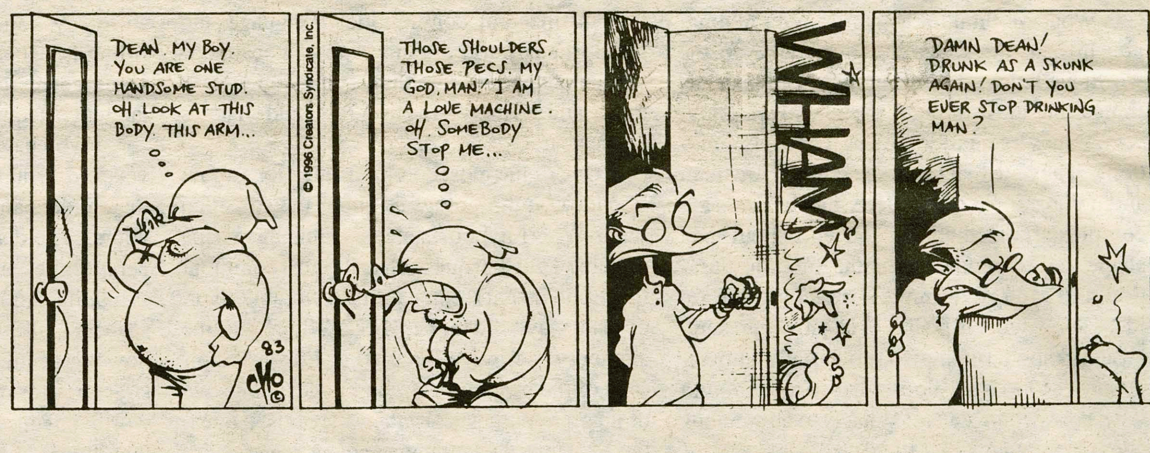

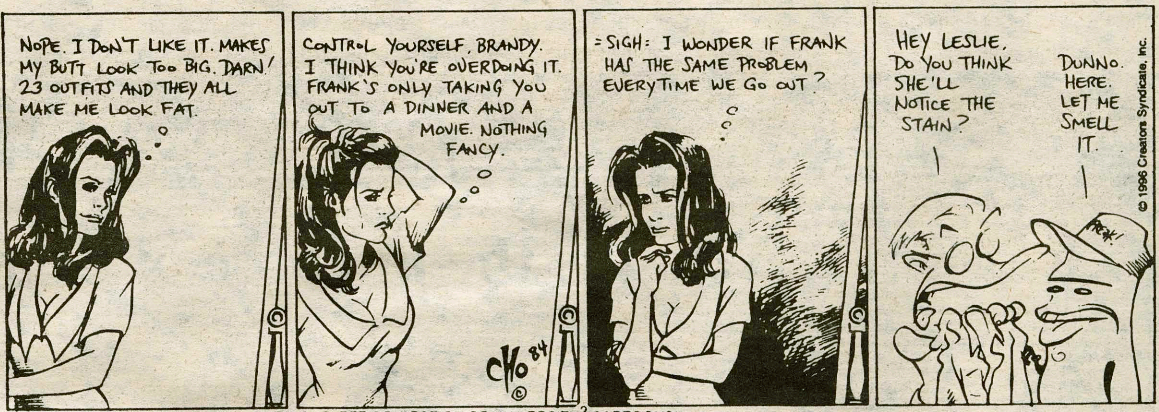

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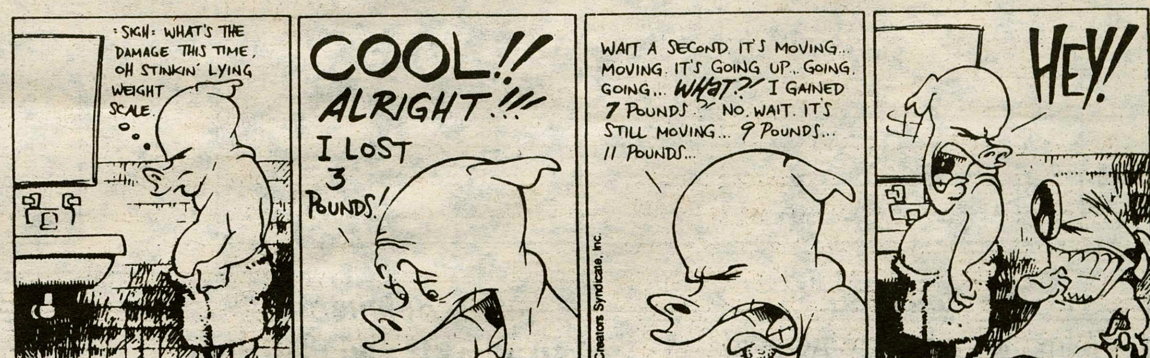

CLASSIFIEDS

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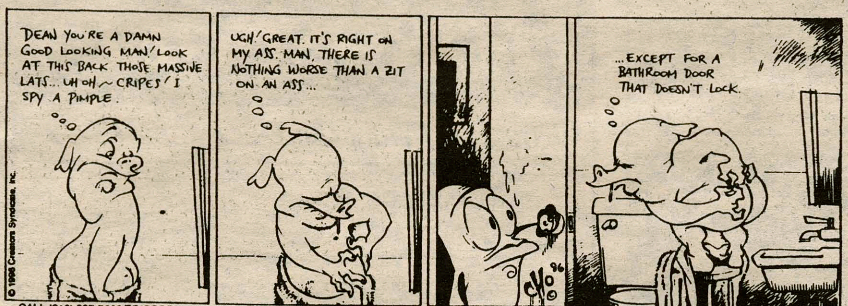

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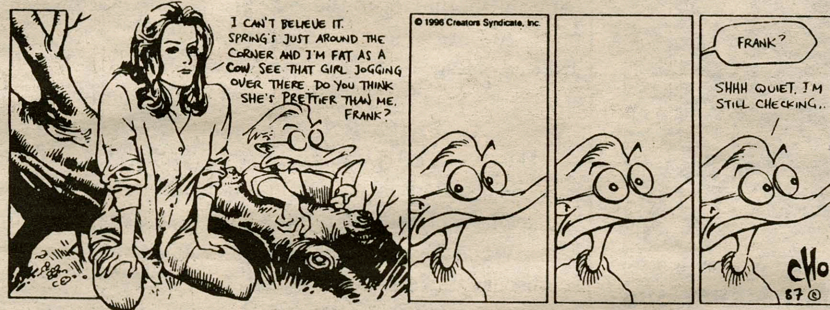

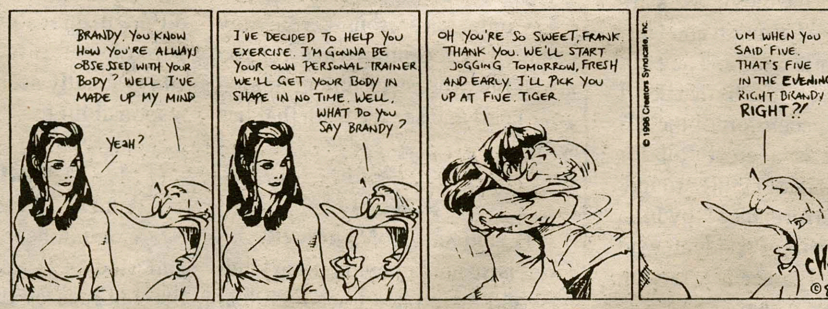

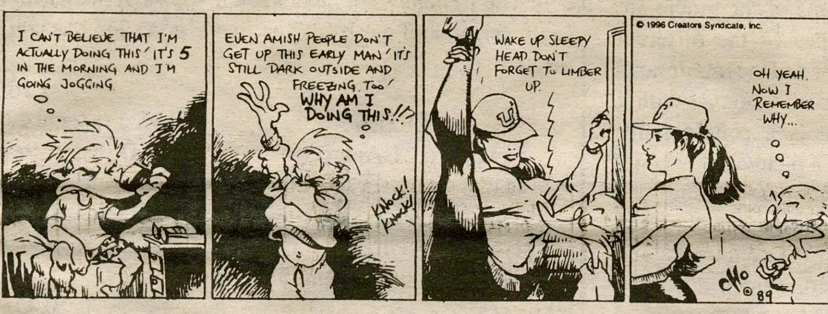

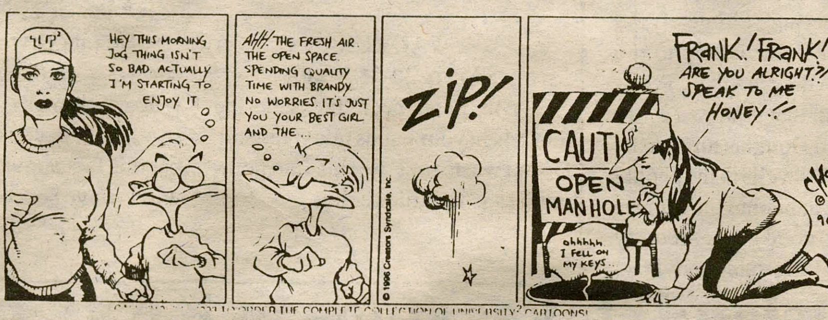

C R O S S W O R D

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

LETTERS FROM EUROPE: One country in particular

by Shirley Soloway

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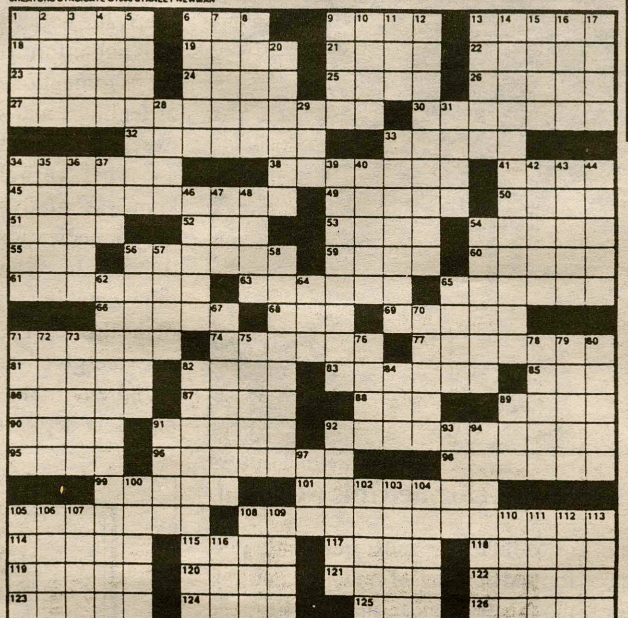

ACROSS

1 Credit-card receipts
6 Actor Mineo
9 Obi-Wan portrayer
13 Wrap material
18 Word form for "mother"
19 Spring bloom
21 Rambler maker
22 Weather word
23 New York city
24 Major-__ (steward)
25 Conical tent
26 Chose, with "for"
27 Immunological protein
30 Detroit's namesakes
32 Aftershocks, e.g.
33 Soft wood
34 *Broken Arrow* star
38 Most abrupt
41 Farming degs.
45 *Designing Women* actress
49 Adds to the payroll
50 Engrave
51 Mil. offender
52 Take to court
53 Czech river
54 Word form for "wing"
55 Letter from Israel
56 Get back for
59 Platform
60 As light __
61 Mawkish speech
63 Brosnan role
65 Wagner heroine
66 *"Für __"*
68 Jolson and Jarreau
69 Hindu ascetic
71 *Father Knows Best* daughter
74 Starts eating
77 Gathering crops
81 Wall hanging
82 Whimper
83 Main arteries
85 Lincoln, but not Douglas
86 Show feeling
87 Bakery specialist
88 Dancer's asset
89 Away from home
90 Bushel-peck connector
91 Roof material
92 Van Dine sleuth
95 __-do-well
96 Recipe phrase
98 Acted snaky?
99 Take the podium
101 10-gallon hat
105 Surf __ (menu entry)
108 Zodiac sign
114 Has compassion
115 Unifier of Russia
117 *"Dies __"*
118 Stares open-mouthed
119 Ridiculous
120 Sausage unit
121 Ticked off
122 Tilted
123 Titled Brits
124 Openwork fabric
125 Ukr., formerly
126 Has a lease on

DOWN

1 Atmospheric pollution
2 Singing sounds
3 One of a group
4 Baby buggy
5 "The Voice"
6 Edge around
7 __ *With a View*
8 In-between state
9 Against
10 Reclined
11 What Zener cards test for
12 Clark Gable film
13 Burns and Connery
14 Menu choice
15 Singer Coolidge
16 "So be it!"
17 Sparks and Beatty
20 Reporter's asset
28 Snatch
29 Shreveport sch.
31 Hts.
33 Nature-walk pickings
34 John or Julie
35 Banister post
36 Replay speed, slangily
37 Part of NATO
39 Zimbabwe, originally
40 Oceanographic adjective
42 One way to take second
43 Pungent
44 Coastline
46 Advantage takers
47 Try for office
48 Barrels
54 Turkish VIPs
56 Most talented
57 "Humor in a jugular __" (*Mad* motto)
58 Knickknack displayers
62 Source of vitamin A
64 Overhead trains
65 It may pop into your head
67 Instruct
70 Russian cooperative
71 Designer Donna
72 Cara of *Fame*
73 Commerce
75 "__ Song Go . . ."
76 Chris of *Law & Order*
78 Buddhas, e.g.
79 John __ Garner
80 Von Stroheim film
82 TV demo
84 One of 18 Louises
89 Driving need
91 Texaco logo
92 Lab containers
93 "Whoops!"
94 Dressing ingredient
97 Houston sch.
100 Tricks
102 Large kangaroos
103 Successors of 115 Across
104 Direct
105 Sour substance
106 Zola novel
107 Small amount
108 Gets the sun
109 Egyptian cross
110 Cotton pack
111 __ arms (indignant)
112 For fear that
113 WWII craft
116 Lumière's life

S P E C T A T O R

C L A S S I F I E D

Send your Quotable Quotes, Personals, and Classified ads to The Spectator via campus mail or email to "spec@hamilton.edu". Classified ads are free of charge. Submission deadline is Tuesday each week.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Sometimes I forget what my professors look like."
-Tod Thiele '99 in response to his roommates' jokes about his attendance record.

"I dated women for months who were less important to me than that teddy bear."
-Professor Briggs on the importance of favorite childhood toys.

PERSONALS

Puppet-

Someone should really cut you loose from those strings. Drink much? Lighten up on the make-up. Don't jump to conclusions.

-The Gambler

Bag of S*@#-

Sorry about the fight. Hope that stay in the hospital wasn't too hard on you. At least they released you in time for your next lie. By the way, thanks for calling.

-Applepie

Nells-

I'm busy right now, can you call me back? That would be fantastic. Where are you? Don't forget to pick up your mail- it's in the yellow building this year.

-Operator

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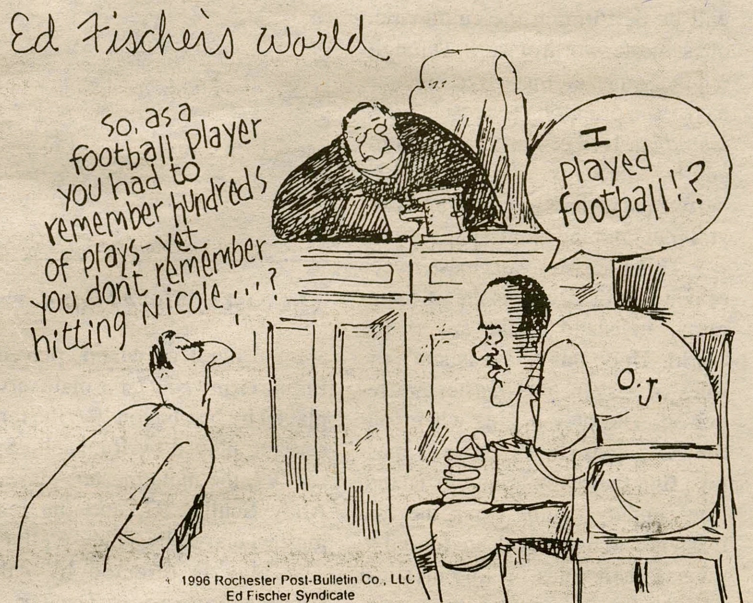

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MOVIES IN REVIEW

My Fellow Americans B

Courtesy Hoyt's Sangertown 8
Sangertown Square Mall

By Kathy Hess '99
Editorial Cartoonist

PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

James Garner and Jack Lemmon face-off in *My Fellow Americans*

At least now there are no ghosts in the White House, as Dan Aykroyd (*Ghost Busters, Driving Miss Daisy*) plays the role of the president. The president hears that a past scandal is about to sink him, and so rather than deal with the scandal, he blames the president prior to him, Kramer.

His presidency has succeeded those of Russell Kramer (Jack Lemmon- *Some Like It Hot, The Player*) and Matthew Douglas (James Garner- *Victor/Victoria, Maverick*), the main characters in this cute presidential comedy. The only really unfortunate aspect of this movie is that it is being released when all of America is sick of presidential elections, scandals, and other weird hijinks.

Russell Kramer is a Republican who spends much of his time after his busy presidency writing books and making public appearances. His main characteristic is that he is a tightwad, and not as "in touch" with the rest of the world as his rival.

Ms. Kramer (Lauren Bacall- *The Big Sleep, All I Want for Christmas*) is Russell's witty wife, and basically stays at her husband's side, except when it he is doing something really stupid. Russell goes to confront the man who will testify that the scandal is Kramer's fault (an example of one of the really stupid things that keeps his wife away), and the plot thickens.

Matthew Douglas is Kramer's biggest rival; they hate each other. Where Russell is referred to as an old man, Douglas is a ladies' man (democrat equals ladies' man in Hollywood). Newly divorced, the former president Douglas charms most of the women in the film. It is a traditional odd couple set up. Think Lumière and Cogsworth from Beauty and the Beast.

Douglas is encouraged by the head of the Democratic National Committee (Wilford Brimley-Quaker Oatmeal commercials) to get involved by making sure that Kramer is the scandalous figure. If he does so, Douglas could get another run for the presidency. Douglas feels that he had too little purpose during his first and only term. Douglas goes to find the man who will testify about the scandal and meets Kramer. While they are arguing the man is killed.

The presidents are hustled off in a helicopter. After discovering that Camp David is not its destination Douglas and Kramer get off. Smart decision, as the helicopter explodes. Douglas and Kramer have to work together to find proof of the deceptive scandal before they are assassinated.

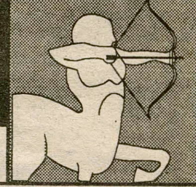
And in trying to avoid the men who are after them, the former presidents receive aid from people who represent the three groups of people that are usually ignored in Washington: poor people, immigrants, and homosexuals. The two men get a more balanced scope of America, and of each other. There are just enough wise cracks to make this only slightly sappy.

What makes the movie work are the personalities. Lemmon and Garner have real comic timing. They can act funny and create laughs that don't result from the discomfort of the audience. Bacall is a great foil for Lemmon when Garner isn't around. Another great performance is by John Heard, as the Vice President who makes Dan Qualye seem a tactful, intelligent speech writer.

The problems of the movie are in the stereotypes of the different people. The poor and the immigrants are rather dumb and anyone with a southern accent is a couple sandwiches short of a picnic. This is not a movie with high aspirations for only the presidents that are played in it, but he rest of the characters, and thus America is one sided.

The movie takes a happy look at the presidency because ultimately the men that we root for live up to the expectations of their office. Presidents are human; that is shown every time Kramer and Douglas turn on the charm, or Aykroyd yells at the people who work for him behind the scenes. But they are also good guys. A comfy message, in a comfortable movie.

HOROSCOPES



For The Week Of December 13-19

Forseen By Dr. Wonka
A&E Astrologer

SAGITTARIUS
(November 23-December 22)

This weekend is your chance to concentrate. The campus will be calm and the quieter you become the more you are able to understand. Take advantage of this opportunity.

CAPRICORN
(December 23-January 22)

Cleanse the pools of perception and see how clearly everything appears. When the mind tires, the consciousness flickers.

AQUARIUS
(January 23-February 18)

Confusion surrounds you. Stay centered by accepting whatever you are in the process of doing. Search your heart and see the truth that lies within.

PISCES
(February 19-March 20)

Pisces are famous for their kindness and a kind heart need not fear evil. The frenziness of next week's exam period will work out just fine for you.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

Many respect your down-to-earth characteristics. Don't be afraid to share your feelings with others. The opening flower blooms alike in all places.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You have been blessed: the moon is in your hands this weekend. Do not waste time. Seeing into nothingness is the true seeing.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

You must take control in the upcoming week. The unexpected is always bound to happen, and the anticipated never comes. Find your strength from within.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Do not let upsetting news bother you so. Do not think, or reflect on it. Instead let it settle itself . Time tends to works things out.

LEO
(July 23-August 22)

Try not to think about too many different things at one time. It is wise of you to focus on priorities and gradually accomplish all other responsibilities.

VIRGO
(August 23-September 22)

Commitment to your interests and studies is your best quality. Staying focused in the key to success. It matters not how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.

LIBRA
(September 23-October 22)

Do not waste your time on complex matters right now. Sometimes it proves the highest understanding is to not understand.

SCORPIO
(October 23-November 22)

No matter what, never surrender your courage. Even at your weakest moments, you are ten times stronger than you believe. Remember this fact about yourself and you will always succeed.

The comedy of Marivaux: 'Slave Island' takes stage in Kirkland Loft

By Mark Wilson '99
A & E Editor

PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

The cast of *Slave Island* which will be performed this weekend.

On Friday and Saturday of this weekend, while most of the Hamilton community will be hitting the books in preparation for the examination period, the five theater majors that comprise the Theater 350 class will be performing the culmination of a semester worth of work. Throughout the semester, these five students have been preparing to present *Slave Island*, an 18th century French comedy by Marivaux. The play will be performed in the Kirkland Dorm Loft at 8 p.m. and the admission is free.

This 1725 Marivaux masterpiece of comedy involves, as the title suggests, an island unlike any in the world. Upon this "slave island", the roles of servant and master are reversed. The play begins when four travelers, two slaves and two masters, find their way upon this island. The comedy begins when the two masters and two slaves are forced to reverse their roles on this mystical island. The enforcer of these laws, the chief of Slave Island, is the fifth character the play.

The characters in this comedy are the chief of island, played by Emma Grinwis '97, the male servant, played by Nat Faxon '97, the female servant, played by Raphaelle Spencer '97, the male master, played by Andy Scully '97, and the female master, played by Tracy Weller '97. The play is directed by Adrian Giurgea, Professor of Theater.

Marivaux (1688-1763) was a French dramatist, novelist, and journalist whose comedies are, after those of Moliere, the most frequently performed in today's French theater. Although he was trained in law, the practice of his father, Marivaux was always more interested in drama, and wrote his first play at age 20. The play, *The Prudent and Equitable Father*, showed some promise and by 1710, he joined the Parisian salon society.

Marivaux's first plays were written for the Comedie-Francaise, but it was the Italian Theater of Lelio that attracted him far more. It was in this commedia dell'arte troupe where Marivaux wrote the bulk of his plays. This Italian form of theater was known for its romantic settings, finer shades of feelings, and witty wordplay between the characters.

This verbal preciousness is known as "marivaudage" and reflects the sophistication and sensitivity of the era. In "Slave Island" we see other notable advances in the realism of the theater. The two servants in the play are given real feelings and the social environment on the island is precisely depicted.

Marivaux wrote *Slave Island* in 1725, one of 30-odd satires written in the 1720's. Other notable satires of the period include *Island of Reason*, which mocks European society, *The New Colony*, which discusses equality between the sexes, and *School for Mothers*, a study in the relationship between a mother and daughter.

According to Raphaelle Spencer, who plays the female servant, "the play is very amusing and I hope everyone gets a good laugh out of it." Once again, *Slave Island* is appearing this Friday and Saturday only in the Kirkland Dorm Loft at 8 p.m. and admission is free.

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PHOTO COURTESY SONY MUSIC

ARTIST OF THE YEAR
FUGEES

*Blending rap, R&B, reggae, and tasteful samples, the Fugees "**Score**" big in my book. Lauryn, Wyclef, and Pras produced the smartest hip hop album of this decade. Besides scoring the biggest hit of the year with the Roberta Flack song, "Killing Me Softly," the Refugee Camp proved to many, or at least to me, that hip hop can become music for the masses. The Fugees capitalized on listeners hungry for a change.*

ALBUM OF THE YEAR **AFGHAN WHIGS**

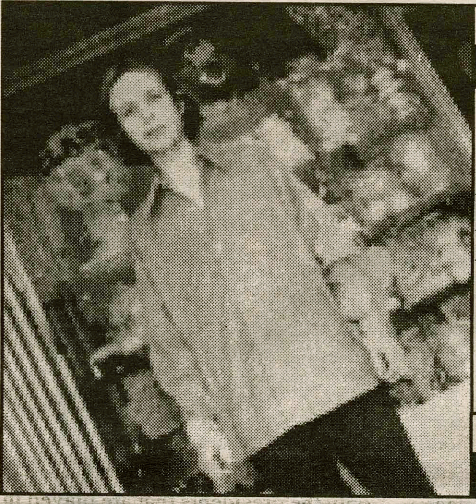
PHOTO COURTESY ELEKTRA RECORDS

*The Whigs' latest release, **Black Love**, is perhaps the best concept album since **The Wall**. Inspired by a novel, head Whig Greg Dulli crafted a masterpiece of raw emotion and bitter anguish. Onward and upward for this band.*

Medeski, Martin, & Wood are not really a new band, but for most of the Walmart music buyers out there, they are. It's nice to see a band whose first interest is musicianship get some respect. Play that funky music.

NEW ARTIST **MMW**

PHOTO COURTESY RYKODISC



MALE ARTIST
BECK

"Loser" no more, Beck has grown up to produce low-tech sophistication. I panned Alanis in last year's Buddhas, but it's hard to ignore the fact that she has the best selling debut album ever.

FEMALE ARTIST
ALANIS

BECK PHOTO COURTESY GEFFEN RECORDS
ALANIS PHOTO COURTESY REPRISE RECORDS

Hollywood pours on the holiday cheer: Kathy Hess on this season's movie releases

By Kathy Hess '99
EDITORIAL CARTOONIST

Opening December 13

Mars Attacks!: Jack Nicholson (*The Shining, A Few Good Men*) plays two roles in a star-studded parody of cheesy Science Fiction movies. Martians, who are apparently very stupid, attack the earth leaving average Americans and the president to solve the problem. It is directed by Tim Burton (*Ed Wood, The Nightmare Before Christmas*), and perhaps is a result of his research on *Ed Wood*. The previews look cool but the ultimate question is whether the parody can move beyond being a B-movie to an awesome movie. Also starring Glenn Close, Annette Benning, Pierce Brosnan, Sylvia Sydney, Jim Brown, Sarah Jessica Parker, Michael J. Fox, Rod Steiger, Martin Short, and Tom Jones (as himself).

The Preacher's Wife: Based on 1947 movie, *The Bishop's Wife*. Henry Biggs (Courtney B. Vance) is a preacher in a loving, but financially unstable church. He prays to God to send help and God sends Dudley (Denzel Washington), an angel, to help him. Dudley falls in like with Julia (Whitney Houston), Henry's wife. The divine love triangle is the biggest amount of strife in what looks like a happy Christmas movie, directed by Penny Marshal. Houston will sing often, in this cushy holiday romance.

Jerry McGuire: Tom Cruise shows off his pearly whites as a pro sports agent who is fired for having too many morals. As in any movie of this type, he then dumps the hot looking woman he is with to cultivate a romance with a slightly dowdy, but ultimately awesome lady love. The love is the big "discovery" in this movie and is played by Renee Zellweger. Cuba Gooding Jr. is Rod Tidwell, the only player to stick with Cruise post-firing. Another happy ending type date movie.

Opening December 20

Beavis and Butthead Do America: When there is nothing left in the head, why fill it? After exams the Beavis and Butthead movie (they said "do", heh heh heh) should be able to alienate any brain cells that are left functioning. It will be interesting to see how a TV show that can't entertain for a half an hour without video filler ends up as a movie. Will there be a Debbie Gibson video segue in the movie too?

Scream: Wes Craven (director of *Nightmare on Elm Street* series) does a horror parody of horror movies. Like the originals weren't funny enough. But this flick stars some names: Courtney Cox (*Friends, Family Ties*), Drew Barrymore (*Mad Love, E.T.*), and Neve Cambell (*Party of Five*). With a cast like that it might be a scary movie after all.

One Fine Day: Michelle Pfeiffer and George Clooney fall in and out of love (but in the end, it'll probably be in). They are single parents with busy lives that collide. It has been done thousands of times before, but both actors are extremely watchable. The Preacher's Wife and Jerry McGuire with this movie fill out the sappy romantic comedy trilogy of the Christmas season.

Opening December 25

Evita: GREATLY HYPED musical starring Madonna. Directed by Alan Parker, it is said to be a successful version of the stage hit. Evita Peron was the wife of Juan Peron, president of Argentina. Evita's life and early death caused the people of Argentina to split on whether she was a Madonna (pun oh so appropriate) figure or a whore who slept her way to the top. Antonio Banderas is Che, the narrator based on a real life person, and gets to sing. He isn't bad. Jonathan Pryce as Peron is supposed to be awesome. The real question is, will there be too much hype to make the movie fly?

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1993-California Wildfires
1994-Northridge Earthquake
1996-Your Job Search

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LECTURES

Tuesday: At 1 pm Conversations with President Gene Tobin will be on the Porch of Beinecke Village.

FILM

There will not be a film this week due to reading period.

ARTS

Friday and Saturday: At 8 pm, in the Kirkland Drama Loft, will be the Theatre 350 Showcase. Sponsored by the Theatre and Dance Department.

Sunday: There will be a Student Concert performed by voice and instrumental students of the Department of Music at 3 pm in Wellin Hall.

CHECK IT OUT

Friday: The final A capella concert of the semester, featuring the Hamiltones, Buffers, and Special K, will be in the Chapel at 8 pm.

FULL WEEKLY EVENTS SCHEDULE http://www.hamilton.edu/html/news/

MOVIES

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13 - DECEMBER 20

SANGERTOWN • 797-2121

Daylight	7:05, 9:50
101 Dalmatians	6:40, 7:20, 9:10, 9:45
Ransom	6:50, 9:35
Star Trek: First Contact	7:00, 9:40
Jingle All the Way	7:15, 9:30
Space Jam	6:30, 8:45
Romeo and Juliet	6:45, 9:55
The Mirror Has Two Faces	6:35, 9:25

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St. Lawrence Saints halo Continentals in Sage Rink

Williams and Begg add a couple goals, record stands at 4-2

By Mark Granovsky '98
Sports Editor

The post-Thanksgiving break period on the Hill is perhaps the most stressful time of the year. Theses, tests, and applications are the norm on campus. Life seems to come down to only a few days. It should be noted that athletes cannot leave their sport due to a few academic obligations. Games have to be played and wins have to achieved. The women's ice hockey team has been doing plenty of the latter this year. In their first year of varsity status, the Continentals have played with a vengeance. A fast 4-1 start, including an impressive win 6-5 over Rennselaer, has shown no late semester swoon for this club.

The RIT Tigers handed the Continentals their first loss of the season, 4-1. Charity Gates had two goals as Rochester managed 25 shots on net. Despite an impressive goal by Tuckey Ridder '98 at 15:40 in the first period, Hamilton could not catch up. The Continentals made 20 shots, but Lisa Sturm played a stellar game. Amy Thompson and Maria Lewis scored the other goals for the Tigers. Goalie Isabel Roberts '97 made 21 saves in the game.

If RIT was a scoring drought, than RPI was an oasis. Hamilton won 6-5, but that does not tell you the whole story. The Hamilton attack was lead by Charlotte Davet '00, Sara Begg '97, and Amy Williams '99. Although RPI put up a valiant effort, Hamilton held onto leads of 3-1, 4-2, and 5-4. Roberts recorded 21 saves in the win. Talia Acompora scord a hat-trick for the Engineers, but it would not be enough this evening. Hamilton moved to 4-1 after five games. Davet and Begg scored two goals each, while Williams had two assists. Deborah Elvin '00 also scored in the win, while Ridder added another assist to her total.

Last night's game against the St. Lawrence Saints was the first disappointment in an otherwise stellar season. Hamilton entered the game with a two-point lead in the Alliance West Division over formidable Middlebury. The Panthers and RIT both have undefeatyed records of 3-0. St. Lawrence entered the game with an 0-6 record including a recent loss to Cornell, 7-5. The Saints loss their first four games by a minimum of five goals, but seemed to be on the way up. It looked to be a close and competitive match. Three hours later the score would prove much different.

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

Women's hockey couldn't find the goals they needed against their division I opponents, St. Lawrence. The women will have plenty of time to re-coup for their matchup against UVM on January 18th.

The Saints trounced the Continentals 12-2 and the score is lower than it could have been. St. Lawrence had an astounding 53 shots on goal and played tough on defense. Hamilton managed to trail 3-1, despite nineteen shots on net by the Saints. Williams scored the goal for Hamilton with 15:08 remaining in the first period. Begg scored tyhe Continental second goal with 10:46 left in the second period. At that point the score was 5-2, but the Saints added two more before intermission. Five straight goals for the Saints in the third period buried the Continentals. Jody Ward, Corrin Champagne, and Kelly Usmail all had hat-tricks, while Ward also had four assists. Roberts, in an admirable effort, stopped 41 shots. Hamilton now falls to 4-2 in ECAC West Division.

Davet leads in goals scored with six in a mere six games. Begg has four goals (six points), while Williams leads the team in total points with nine. Before this tough loss, Hamilton outscored their opponents 20-13. Roberts, in her first five games, made 90 saves and allowed a scant 2.60 goals per game for a percentage of .874. Hamilton still holds onto the first place lead in the ECAC West Division.

The Continentals can breathe easy for a month. They will next host the University of Vermont on January 18th.

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INDICATES HOME GAME

INDICATES AWAY GAME

Gold dust twins Shantz and Larson lead hoops

Princeton on tap in new year

*continued from **Hoops** back page.*

These efforts earned him UCAA Player of the Week and NESCAC Co-Player of the Week. Local hero Kevin Thorpe '98 scored ten points, while Larson and Raedts chipped in nine apiece.

On Tuesday, the Hobart Statesmen came to the Hill for a showdown between UCAA league leaders. Star center Eric Nelson made his season debut after sitting out with a sprained ankle. Hobart came in fired up, but instead were sizzled by the hot Continentals.

Once again a strong opening gave Hamilton an early lead which they would never relinquish. Hobart did manage to cut the deficit to two points, 55-53, with five minutes remaining, only to be turned away. Thorpe and Larson hit two consecutive three pointers to increase the lead to ten points late in the game. Schantz and Thorpe then iced the game from the free throw line with a pair apiece. Hamilton fought off the Statesmen comeback in winning 73-69.

Larson led the Continentals with 20 points on 8-16 shooting. Raedts added 12 points and 13 rebounds, but more importantly held Eric Nelson to just eight points. Schantz had a strong showing, scoring ten points and grabbing 13 rebounds.

Hamilton concludes fall semester play on an impressive four game winning streak. The Continentals lead the UCAA not only in the win column, but in many others as well. Schantz is the league's top rebounder and second-leading scorer. Defensively, the team has held opponents to just 32.7% shooting. Furthermore, their average margin of victory is 13 points per game.

Schantz leads the team in scoring, rebounding, and cool dunks, averaging 18 ppg and 15 rpg. However, he also leads in turnovers. Larson is right behind with 17.8 ppg on 50% shooting. Raedts averages 7.5 ppg and 7.3 rpg.

The Continentals are riding high on early season winning. They do not play again until January 8 (at Oneonta). After a home tournament, the team heads on a five game road trip which will surely test their strength.

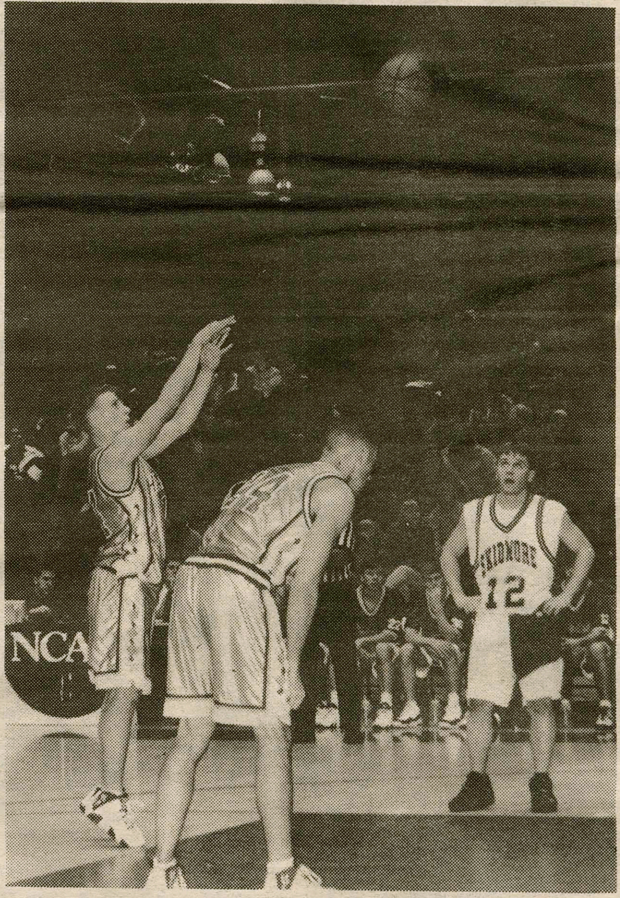

PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

Statesmen succumb to the power of Hamilton.

Beat the "Experts"

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our one and only celebrity Sports Editor, Mark Granovsky, as well as their picture in *The Spectator*.

Beat the experts final results Fall 1996

Buzz Carobus '98-Special Guest	88-55
Oren Rawls '99-Features Editor	86-57
Mark Granovsky'98-Sports Editor	82-61

Guests who are quasi-experts:

Brendan Ouimette '98	10-2
Joshua Guarigula '98	9-3
Jon Tucker '99	9-3
Matt Kane '99	8-4

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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Swim teams butterfly to home victory

Team lead by core of upperclassmen

continued from Swim back page

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

Continentals look to down Dutchmen in February.

On a team of standouts, Cathlyn Lang'99 had four top-ten finishes, including impressive second places in both the 400IM and in a strong 200 Fly. Alysa Ball'99 tallied 4th, 5th and 6th places in the 200 Back, 200 Free, and 500 Free, respectively.

The sprinting corps of Wendy Marrs'97 (top - 5th 50 Free), Meghan Steed'00 (top - 3rd 100 Breast), Maura Gorman'98 (top - 3rd 100 Back) and Leslie Allen'97 (top - 2nd 100 Back) posted consistently strong results throughout the meet. Gorman and Allen teamed with Marianne Steen'97 to control the backstroke events.

The breaststroke contingent also fared well. Led by the high placing of Lisa Gelbach'99, Katie Aiello'99 and Sara Jackson'00 turned in fine swims while doing double duty in IM and backstroke events. The women also recorded some quality distance swims. Co-captain Heather Wayne'97 was among the group of Beth Nolan'97, flier Sarah Schwartz'99 (top - 4th 200 Fly) and promising rookie Amy Ryan (top - 4th 1650 Free) that were consistent scorers in all three sessions.

In addition to Postles' performances, the men were led by their core group of experienced upperclassmen. Andrew Wintermuth'98 was Hamilton's only individual swimming event champion by taking the 400IM early in the second session. Wintermuth added a 2nd (200IM) and 4th (100FR) and was a powerful force in the relays. Hamilton swept the 400IM - finishing 2-3 were Josh Plati'98 and reliable co-captain Mark Moldenhauer'97. Plati also notched top-five swims in the 200IM and 200 Back, while Moldenhauer garnered valuable points with four top-six finishes, including a fourth in the 100 Breast.

Versatile seniors Matt Swensson and co-captain Judd Taylor were consistent scorers in the sprint and middle-distance freestyles. Matt Hawkins'97 (Back) and Josh Blum'97 (Fly) joined Chris Yeagle'99 (Fly), Adam Bushnoe'99 (Fly), and Todd Marzolf'99 (Back) as part of a group that successfully combined efforts in other specific strokes with freestyle sprinting. Hawkins, whose top finish was third in the 100 Back, was also looked to for key relay swims. Bushnoe, who went 4-6 in the 100 and 200 Fly, will look to build on his freestyle sprinting as the season progresses.

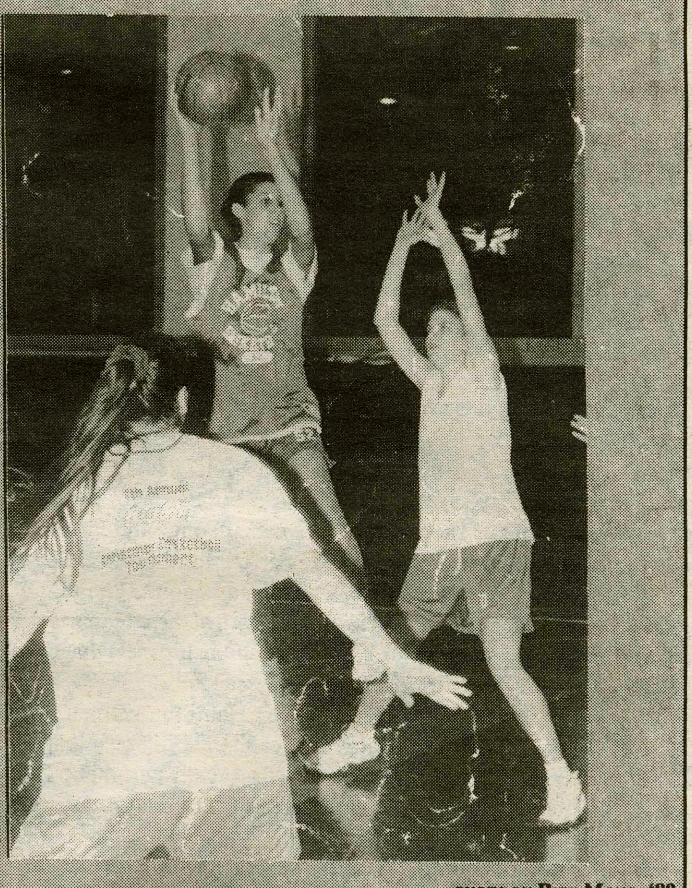
Male first-years were not silent, either. The triad of young breaststrokers turned in some quality swims. Mike Ogurick led the way (top - 4th 200 Breast) and was followed closely by Andrew Keay and Jamie McKee in both the 100 and 200. Keay also shifted gears to take a strong 6th in the 200IM.

Excellent individual swims were also turned in by Ryan Cooney'97 (100,200 Free), and by Liam Smith'00 (100,200 Free) and Jay Gormley'00 (200,500 Free).

The squads now turn their attention to a month of solid training before resuming their meet schedule in mid-January. They will face rival Union in early February at Hamilton.

PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

Combined efforts of sprint and skill are team's virtues.



Women's hoops look to heat up January. PHOTO BY RITU MONGA '99

Women's hoops sprints past Thoroughbreds 48-45

Valenta and Moran lead attack

BY FELICIA HOLTZMAN '00
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Playing three games in five days, the women's basketball team was only able to win one of them, their sole away game in the series. While the Continentals were defeated by Rensselaer on Friday and William Smith on Tuesday, they managed to come away victorious from Skidmore on Saturday for the first time in four years.

Last Friday, the team battled against Rensselaer and began the game in the lead. However, with 10:57 remaining in the forth quarter, Rensselaer made a come back from being down 10 points. In the last 1:27 minutes, Rensselaer hit a jumper, putting their team up 56-54. Jen Moran'99 and Jessica Levi '97 led the Continentals in scoring with 13 points each. The final score was 60-56.

The following day, the Continentals traveled to Skidmore where they came away victorious for the first time in four seasons. Sabrina Valenta'00 led scoring with 11 points and continued to contribute a great deal to her new team through her size, speed, and scoring capabilities. Jen Moran scored 10 points and Jessica Levi stole an astonishing 14 rebounds and attained 6 points. Like in the team's game against Denison earlier in the season, Kelly McKeown'00 played an excellent game, adding 7 points and 9 steals. McKeown continues to shine in defense and was a pivotal member of the team in this game. The game concluded with a final score of 48-45 and a victory for Hamilton.

This Tuesday's game unfortunately ended in another loss for Hamilton as they hosted William Smith for their first match up of the season. The team did display exceptional team unity as they cheered on each member from the sidelines and began to play as a real team and not a group of individuals. This enthusiasm helped them in their confidence and the team hardly ever allowed William Smith to get ahead by more than a few points. Throughout the game, the Continentals and William Smith stayed almost neck and neck, with William Smith up 2 or 4 points the majority of the time. The Continentals will have a chance to play William Smith again later in the season in February at William Smith. With such a close game this time, Hamilton should definitely provide some fierce competition for their opponents as the season will be in progress and the Continentals will have had more substantial experience playing together. Hamilton will meet with Rensselaer later this season for a second game in February as well.

In the meantime, the Continentals have been putting in long hours of practice to improve their scoring and rebounding skills as well as their general offensive and defensive plays. Assistant Coach Melissa Hart believes this practice will produce some positive changes in the team's game over time. "Once the girls master the plays they have been learning, the team should play together much better and we should start winning many more games."

Hopefully what Assistant Coach Hart says becomes true as the Continentals take on Oneota State this week for their final game until January 14th. Although the recent Continental losses are disappointing, they should not overshadow the win the team had over Skidmore.

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Women swimmers capture UCAA, Men finish third

By Christopher Leahy '99
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Continental mens and womens swimming and diving teams made a major splash at last weekend's UCAA conference championship meet. The two-day event, held at Hamilton's own Bristol Pool, saw a full house of fans cheer the women to the conference title and the men to a very respectable third-place finish.

The squads, under Coach Dave Thompson, did not train specially for this meet, which fell midway through their grueling four months of training. Many of the other teams, however, were shaved and tapered for maximum performance, giving the Hamilton teams an extra challenge with which to contend. Mens co-captain Judd Taylor'97 remarked, "This meet serves as a good indicator of where we are in our training, and from the look of things we are doing OK."

The women dominated most events and held a commanding lead throughout the meet. Although a relatively small team compared to some rival squads, the high quality of the Hamilton swimmers enabled them to place four or five swimmers in the top ten individual events.

The men faced stiff competition from rivals RPI and Union. Both teams used their depth and meet experience to thwart the small but powerful Continental team. By the end of the second session, Hamilton was locked in a single-digit battle for the lead, but ended up being outdone Saturday evening for a narrow third place finish behind RPI and Union. Hamilton will revisit both of these teams in the State Championship meet that concludes their season.

The Hamilton women were able to capitalize in areas that actually worked against the men. They won three of four relays; the men often fell victim to the sheer depth of rival teams, but still swam to respectable 3rd and 4th place relay finishes. Co-captain Vicky Massoud'97 won the three-meter diving event; the mens team could only look on at the diving competition as it looks forward to the second-semester return of injured diver Joe Schmitz'99.

One of many individual high spots for the Hamilton teams was the naming of first-year distance powerhouse DJ Postles as UCAA Rookie of the Meet. Postles secured this honor with four top-six finishes, including second place swims in the 500 and 1650 freestyle.

please see Swim page 19.

Men's basketball impeaches Statesmen,

Enter the new year with blistering 4-0 record

By David Sylofski '97
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

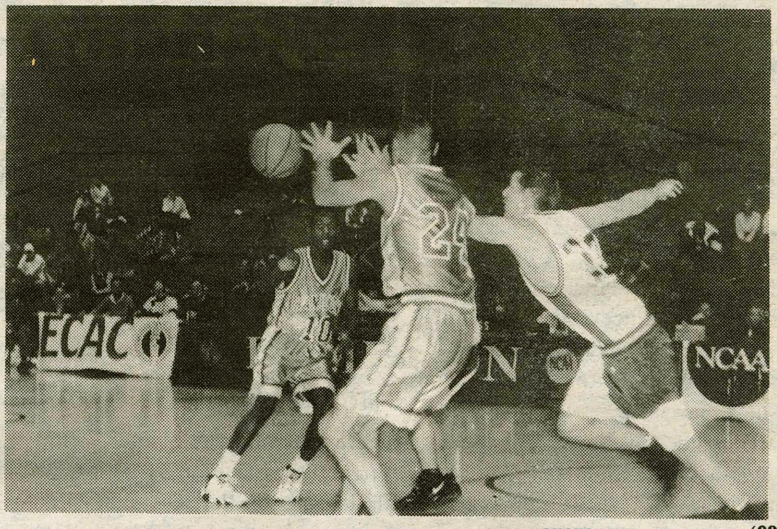

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

Hamilton skids past Skidmore.

Hamilton (4-0) opened UCAA league play in style as they cruised to three straight home victories. The Conts dominated Rensselaer, Skidmore and Hobart en route to a 4-0 record for the fall semester. Forwards Mike Schantz '99 and Kevin Larson '97 led the way offensively. Senior center J. J. Raedts made a strong showing defensively for Hamilton.

Rensselaer entered Scott Fieldhouse looking for its first win of the season. However, with star center Jason Poselovich tightly guarded by Raedts, the Engineers were forced to fire from the outside for most of the game. The results were miserable. Rensselaer shot only 34% for the game, and were limited to only one shot at the basket. Hamilton dominated throughout the game. Once again Coach Tom Murphy emptied the bench with ten minutes remaining, and the team eased its way to an 84-60 win.

Schantz led the way for Hamilton, scoring 19 points on 8-12 shooting while adding nine rebounds. Larson added 19 more on 5-11 shooting. Paul Rava '97 came off the bench to score ten points and haul down ten rebounds.

The Skidmore game last Saturday began much like the Rensselaer game, with the Conts firing a barrage of threes in the opening minutes. Larson was left wide open for two quick threes before the Thoroughbreds learned how to play defense. The score was 13-2 just five minutes into the game. Hamilton continued the trend for the rest of the half as the lead ballooned to 46-28 at the half.

The second half was a different story. Easy shots fell off the rim and defensive breakdowns allowed Skidmore back into the game. The Thoroughbreds cut the difference to 59-51 with six minutes to play. Once again the Conts responded, this time behind the strong post play of J. J. "Dutch Boy in the Paint" Raedts. The huge center dumped in three buckets down low to seal the 69-59 victory for the Conts. Murphy was satisfied with a ten point victory, especially when considering the team scored only 23 points in the second half.

Schantz again played a strong game. The slashing forward scored 17 points despite missing all of his second half field goal attempts. He also added an incredible 19 rebounds.

please see Hoops page 18.

Hamilton wins last four games to earn national ranking

Captain Jeff Bradley Joins Hamilton Hockey's Elite 100-Point Club

By David Andreatta '97
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Hamilton men's hockey has won its last four straight games to improve its record on the season to 5-2-0, which is good enough to earn the team a spot in the national ranking poll. Hamilton currently ranks seventh in the latest NCAA East region poll and second in the ECAC East division behind Middlebury, St. Anselm, and Norwich, who are all tied for first.

Last Friday, Hamilton romped a weak North Adams squad with a score of 10-1. Stellar offensive play by assistant captains Joe Baudo '97 and Gary Heenan '97 earned them five points each on the night. Baudo had a goal and four assists while Heenan tallied five assists. Rob Rigg '99 and Zac Sweetland '99 each had hat-tricks while Rigg also managed an assist. Brian Guastella'98 notched his fifth goal on the season for the Conts and also added an assist. Other assists were credited to Darren Johnston '99 with four and Dave Webb '98 with one. Goaltender Brent Davey '00 made a total of 10 saves. Despite the great success of many members of the team that night, none were as sweet as captain Jeff Bradley's two-point night that earned him one of Hamilton athletics most elite distinctions.

PHOTO BY JULIE LOSAURO '99

It was sweet revenge for the Conts as they jousted the Lord Jeffs.

Bradley '97 was inducted into Hamilton Hockey's 100-Point Club at the 18:21 mark of the third period with his second goal and Hamilton's tenth. Only a small list of players from Hamilton Hockey's eighty-year history have had the honor of seeing their name engraved on the plaque that graces the lobby of the athletic fieldhouse signifying induction into the club. Bradley modestly says of his accomplishment, "I am relieved that I have finally reached that plateau. It is an individual honor but I can't take all the credit. Linemates past and present have earned this distinction with me."

The Continentals faced a much tougher challenge on Saturday afternoon from their nemesis squad at Amherst. Hamilton redeemed their heartbreaking loss to Amherst in the ECAC championship last season with a 4-2 win over the Lord Jeffs. Rob Rigg '99 opened the scoring for Hamilton at 12:07 of the second and Brian Guastella scored 48 seconds later to give Hamilton a 2-0 lead. Amherst came back with some tough play and lucky breaks to tie the game at two until late in the third period. The score remained tied until Darren Johnston '99 took advantage of a beautiful centering pass from John Whitwell with 1:04 remaining and tucked the puck behind a struggling Joe Branca. Rigg '99 scored an empty net goal with 17 seconds left to ensure Hamilton the win. Other assists were credited to Jeff Bradley with two, Zac Sweetland '99, Joe Baudo, and Brian Coakley '99 with one apiece. Goaltender Brent Davey '00 played an excellent game for the Continentals making 16 saves and recording his and Hamilton's fourth win. His outstanding performance between the pipes with a .895 save percentage and 2.25 goals against average earned Brent the ECAC Rookie of the Week prize on Tuesday.

On Tuesday, December 10, Hamilton sailed to an easy win over Hobart 8-3. The Continentals scored four goals in the first fifteen minutes of play and led 7-0 after two periods. Jeff Bradley led the Buff and Blue with two goals and two assists, while Ben Hawn '98 added three assists. Scott Meyer '00 opened the scoring for Hamilton just 3:23 into the contest. Other goals were shared by Brian Coakley, John Whitwell '98, Zac Sweetland, and Rob Rigg. Rigg's goal and two assists against Hobart put him in the lead of the Continental scoring race with 11 points (7 goals and 4 assists). Despite the win Hobart did manage to challenge the Conts late in the game and goaltender Jake DeBoever '99 was there to step up to the challenge. DeBoever had 25 saves in goal for Hamilton.

Hamilton will entertain in the Sage Rink this weekend as the team hosts its Christmas Classics Round Robin Tournament. The Continentals will meet nationally ranked Fredonia tonight at 7p.m. and nationally ranked Elmira at 7p.m. on Sunday. Be sure to support the high-flying Conts as they attempt to gain ground in the rankings. Games are scheduled to be broadcast over Hamilton's own WHCL 88.

Scorecard

Men's Basketball	4-0
Women's Basketball	3-5
Men's Ice Hockey	5-2
Women's Ice Hockey	4-2
Women's Squash	3-0
Men's Squash	4-3